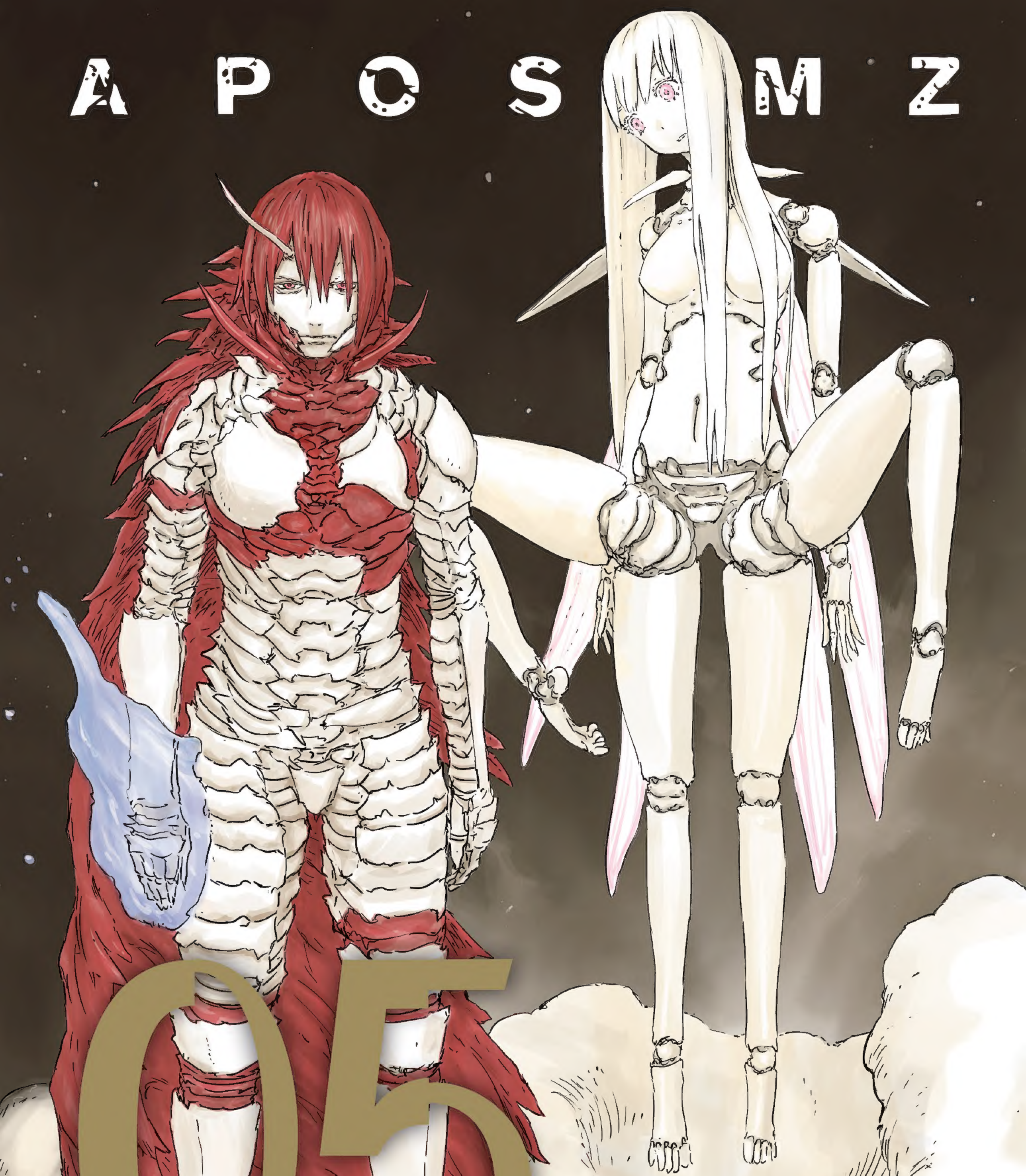
APOSMZ



05

TSUTOMU NIHEI

KAJIWAN OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH (REGULAR FRAME ARMORED FORM)

FRAME OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH CREATED BY KAJIWAN

FIISA. JINATA. TASURI (REGENERATEDS OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH)

KEISHA OF IRF NIKK

APOSIMZ

05

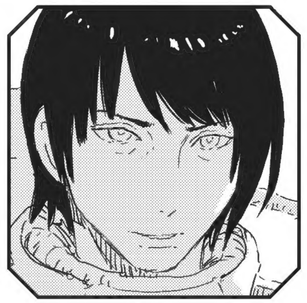
TSUTOMU
NIHEI

PLOT AND CHARACTER INTRO



NICHIKO SUOU

The Emperor of Rebedoa. He is currently creating powerful, high-level Regular Frames.



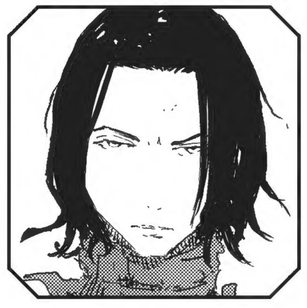
KAJIWAN

The King of Irf Nikk and Keisha's elder brother. After their hidden village was destroyed, he absconded in order to fulfill his own ambition.



JATE

A high-level Reincarnated of the Rebedoan Empire. Has the ability to manipulate automatons.



TOSU

Member of the Rebedoan Imperial Forces. His brain was implanted into a Regular Frame, making him a Reincarnated. Has the ability to manipulate metal.

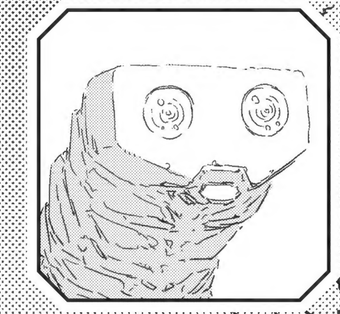
Previously

The Northern Composite Slab Region suffered damage after the weather-regulating satellite crashed to the surface. Etherow, badly injured in the crash, was secreted underground by Titania and Keisha to give him the time to regenerate, but Reincarnateds of Rebedoa are in hot pursuit...!



ETHEROW

A master marksman who became a Regular Frame. Badly injured when Ume fell.



TITANIA

An Automaton who arrived from the Core in order to put a stop to the Rebedoan Empire's ambitions. Has two forms.

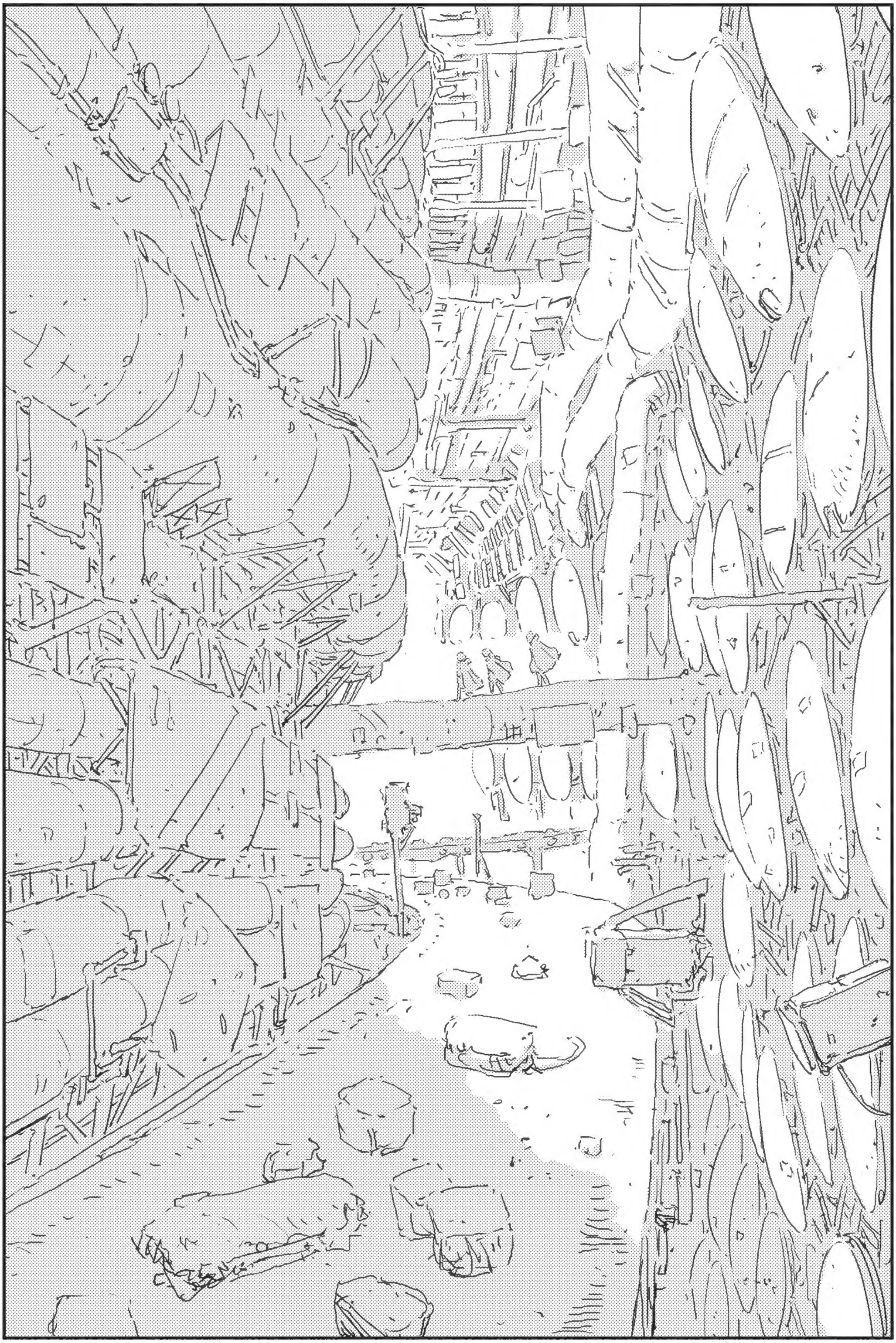


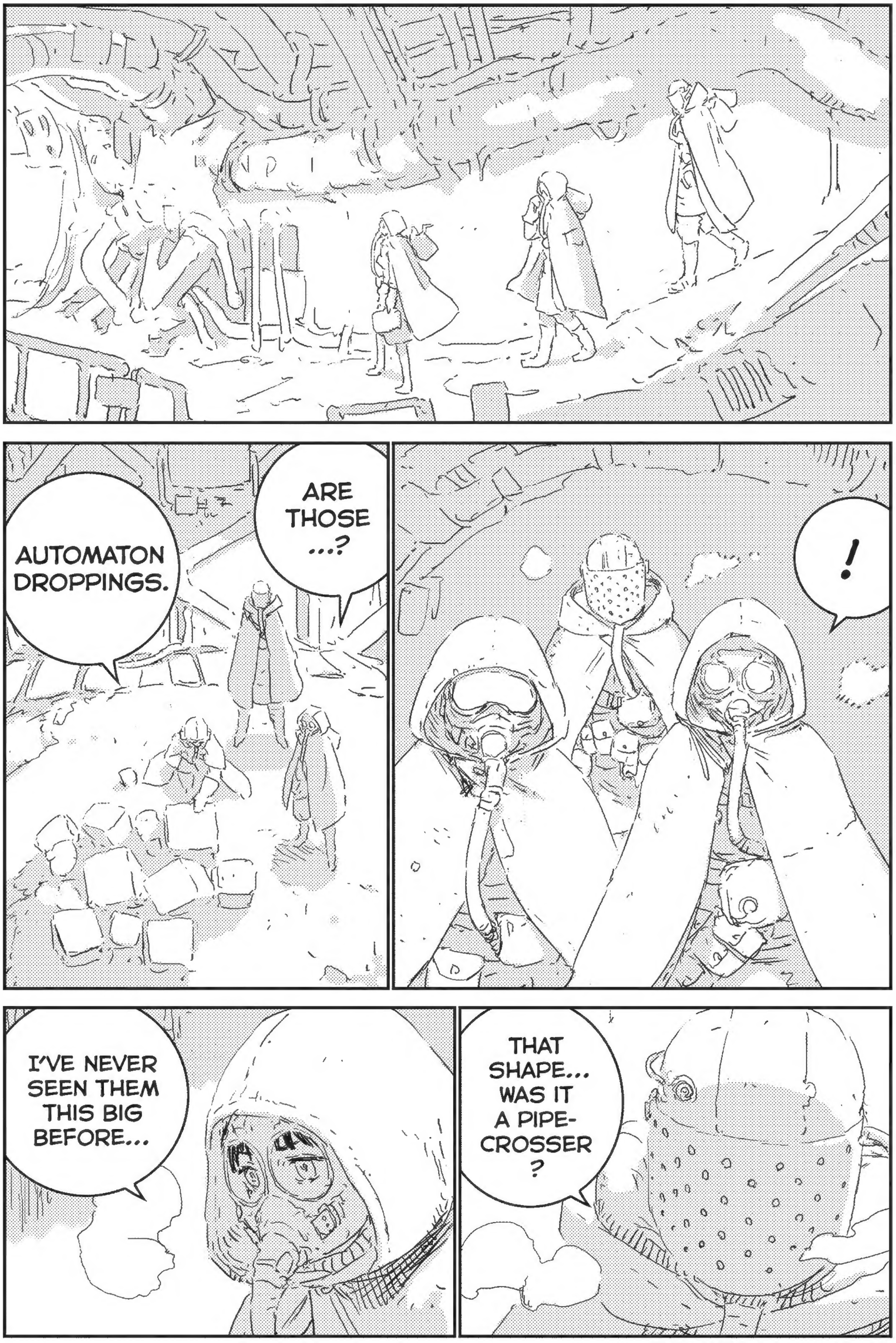
KEISHA

Princess of Irf Nikk, which was destroyed by the Empire. Can manipulate electricity and uses an expandable staff.

APOSIMZ

CHAPTER 25




AUTOMATON DROPPINGS.
ARE THOSE ...?
!
I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM THIS BIG BEFORE...
THAT SHAPE... WAS IT A PIPE-CROSSER ?

HUFF ...

IS IT TIME WE MOVED CAMP?

PERHAPS OUR PRESENCE IS STARTING TO BECOME NOTICED.

I SEE.

LET'S GO SOMEWHERE A LITTLE BIT HIGHER NEXT TIME.

WE CAN SEND SCOUTS OUT IN THE MORNING TO SEARCH FOR POSSIBLE LOCATIONS.

HAAH... HOW I WISH I COULD SEE THE SKY!

GRANNY'S AUTOMATON REPELLENT ALONE

DOESN'T AMOUNT TO SQUAT.

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO JUST CONTINUE TRAVELING AT THIS DEPTH.

WE DON'T HAVE ANY DECENT WEAPONS, EITHER.

AND YET THE EMPIRE FOUND US.

WE WERE HIDING IN A PLACE 100 KILOMETERS DEEPER THAN HERE,

OTA.

RIGHT ?!

I WANT TO GO UP ONTO THE SURFACE, TOO!

THE EMPIRE'S PHONY AUTOMATONS WILL BE EVERYWHERE, WATCHING.

IN SHALLOW UNDER-GROUND PLACES, NOT TO MENTION THE SURFACE,

EVEN IF A REIN-CARNATED DOESN'T COME,

AND IT WAS CHASING KEISHA AND THE REST...

THAT WAS AN IMPERIAL REINCAR-NATED.

TO COPY THEM IS...

THE EMPIRE... DAMN THEM, IT'S SACRILEGE! THE AUTOMATONS ARE GOD'S CREATIONS!

THE REAL AUTOMATONS EAT THE FAKE ONES FOR US.

BY MIGRATING WHILE MAINTAINING OUR DEPTH,

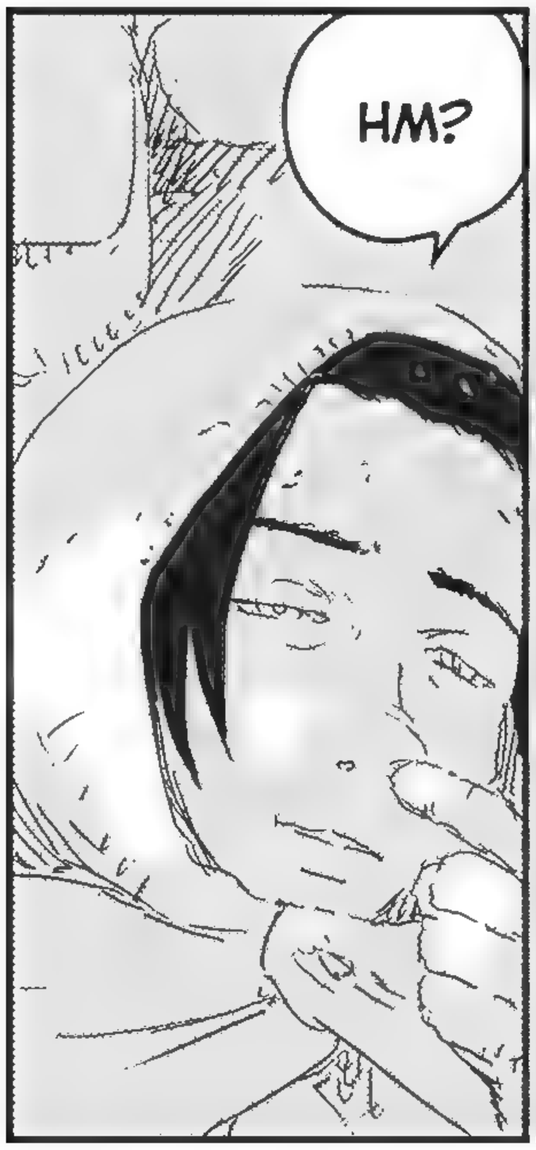
THERE ARE STILL MANY STRUCTURES UNDER-GROUND.

THERE ARE GREAT CHASMS OR DEEP SHAFTS, FOR EXAMPLE.

YEAH...

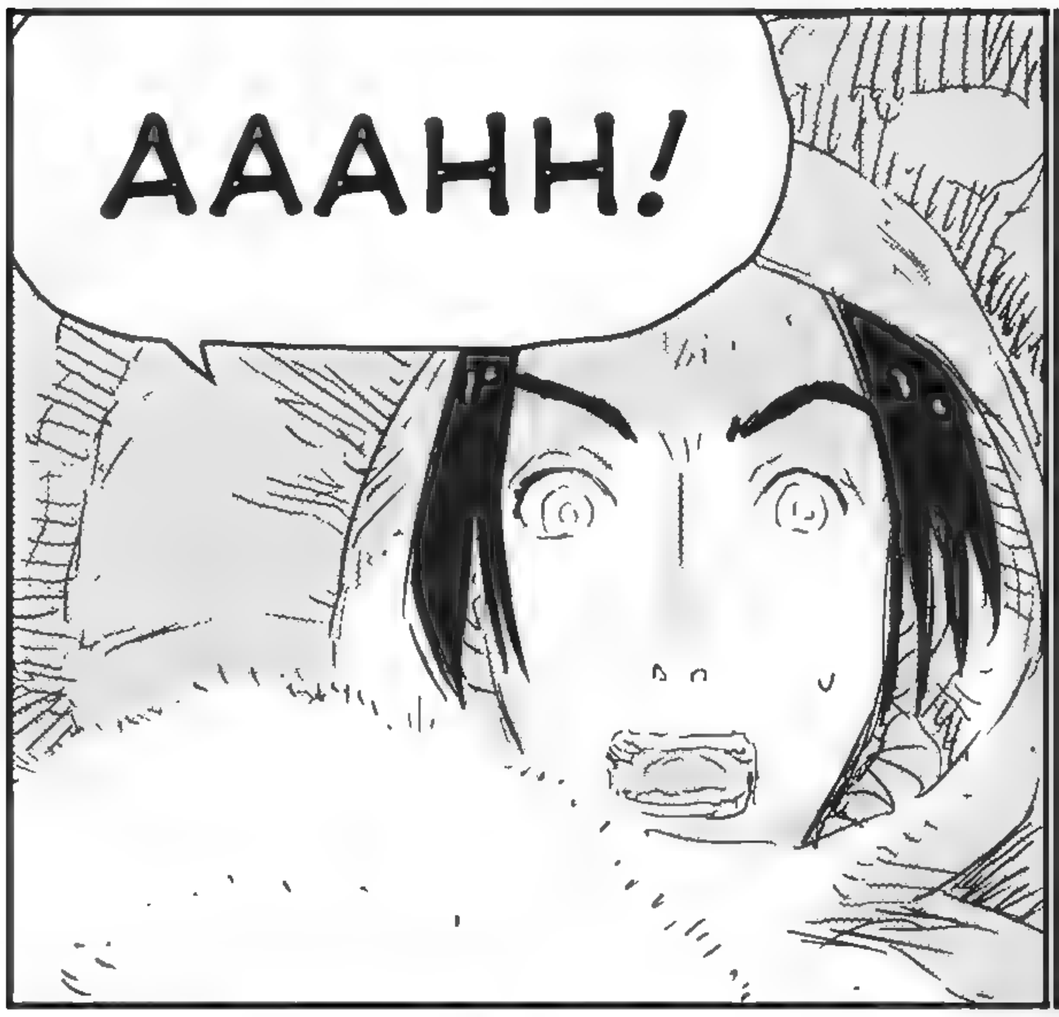
EVEN IF WE DON'T GO TO THE SURFACE, THERE ARE PLACES WHERE SUNLIGHT STILL REACHES.

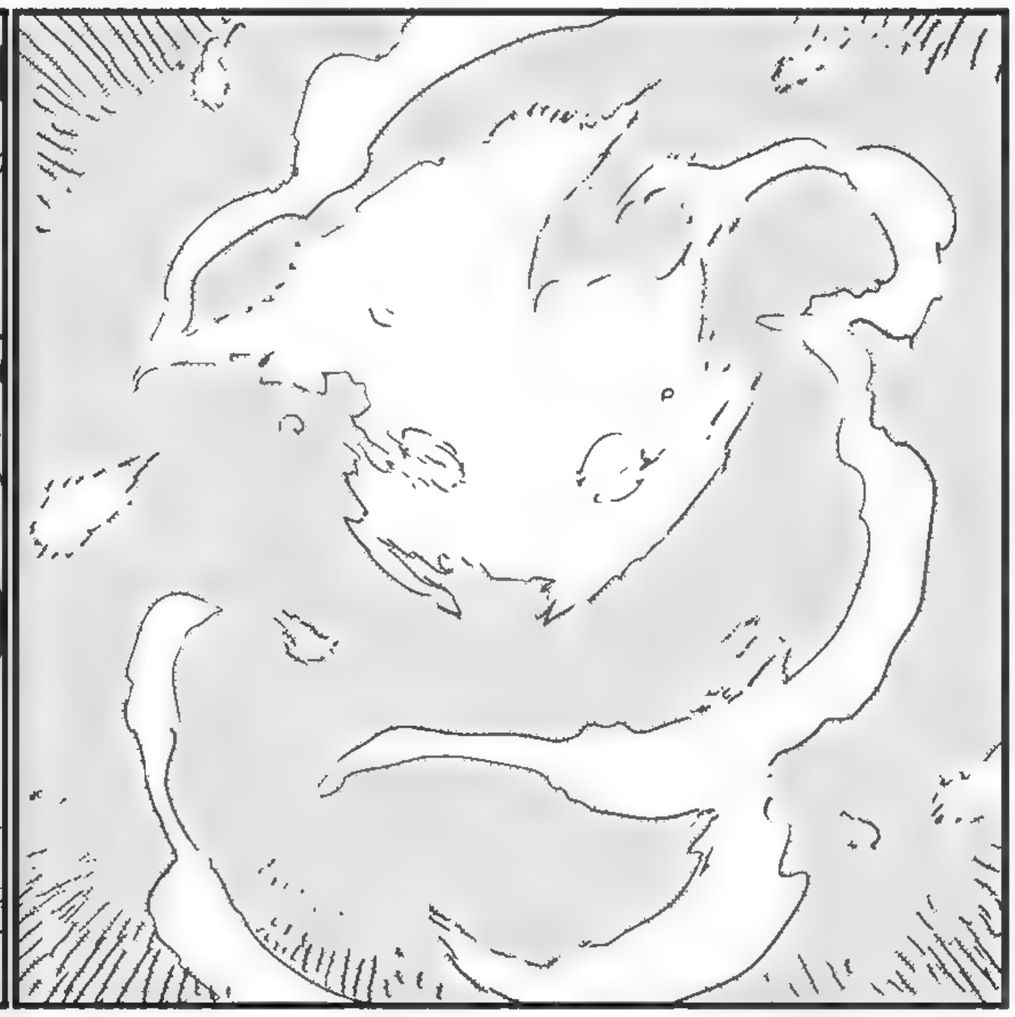
STAY STRONG A BIT LONGER.

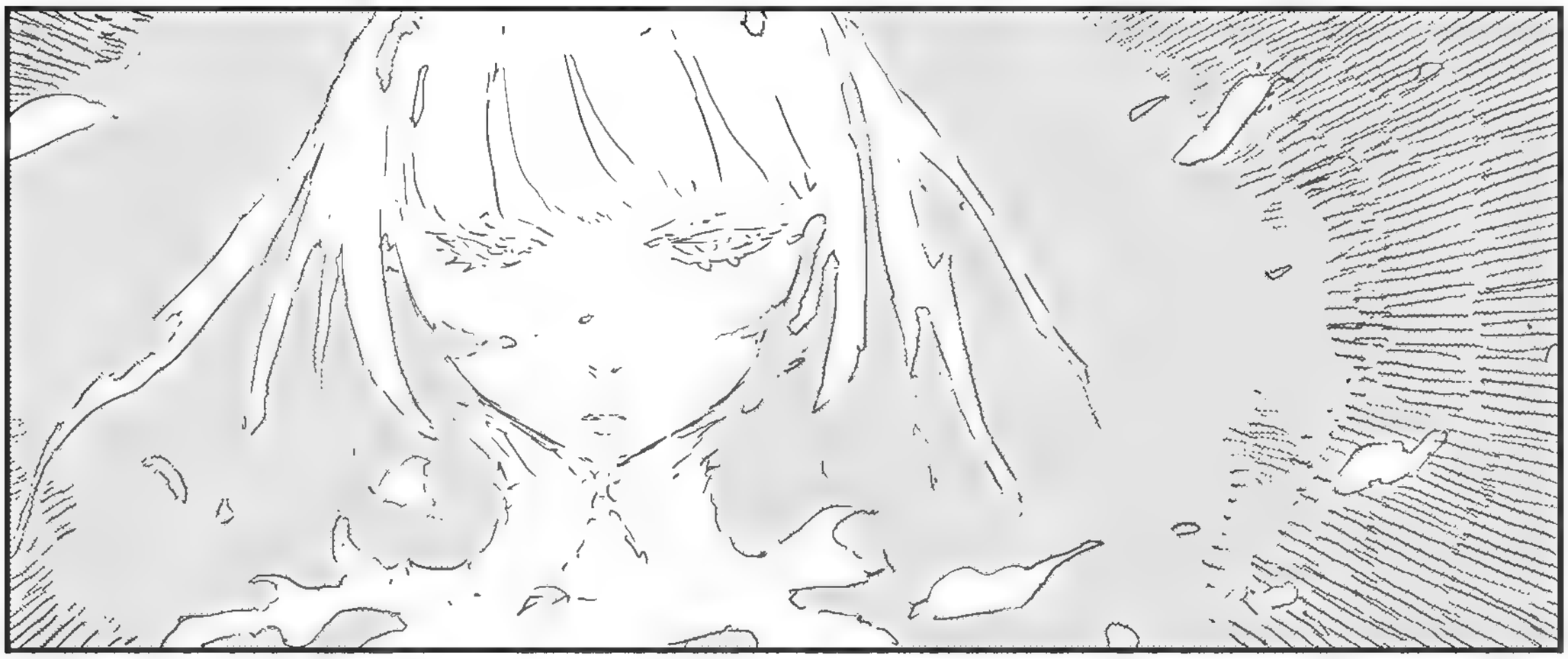

HM?




MNF
...


AAAHH!





WH-WHO ARE YOU ?

?!

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.

WHAT ?!

UME ?!!

UME HAS DEVIATED FROM ITS ORBIT AND IS GOING TO STRIKE THE SURFACE.

THE EMISSARY FROM THE CORE!!

THAT VOICE... TITANIA?!

THE DETONATION AND AFTERSHOCK WILL IMPACT THE ENTIRE SURFACE OF THE NORTHERN COMPOSITE SLAB REGION.

EVEN UNDER THE SURFACE, A WIDE AREA AROUND GROUND ZERO WILL LIKELY BE DEVASTATED.

BUT THE OUTLOOK IS NOT GOOD.

RIGHT NOW, KEISHA, ETHEROW, AND I ARE TRYING TO PREVENT IT,

GET THERE AT ONCE! YOU HAVEN'T A SECOND TO LOSE!!

THIS IS THE NEAREST SEMI-MEGA-STRUCTURAL BOX-SHAPED SPACE

FROM WHERE YOU ARE.

SAY WHAT ...?

THE EMISSARY FROM THE CORE...

SHE'S DISAP-PEARED ...

WHMF

OKAY, EVERYONE! LET'S HURRY! WE'RE OFF!

EXACTLY WHAT SHE SAID!

WHAT DID ALL THAT MEAN...?

IT'S SLIPPERY! BE CAREFUL!

SO IT'LL BE QUITE A SHORTCUT IF WE GO THROUGH HERE.

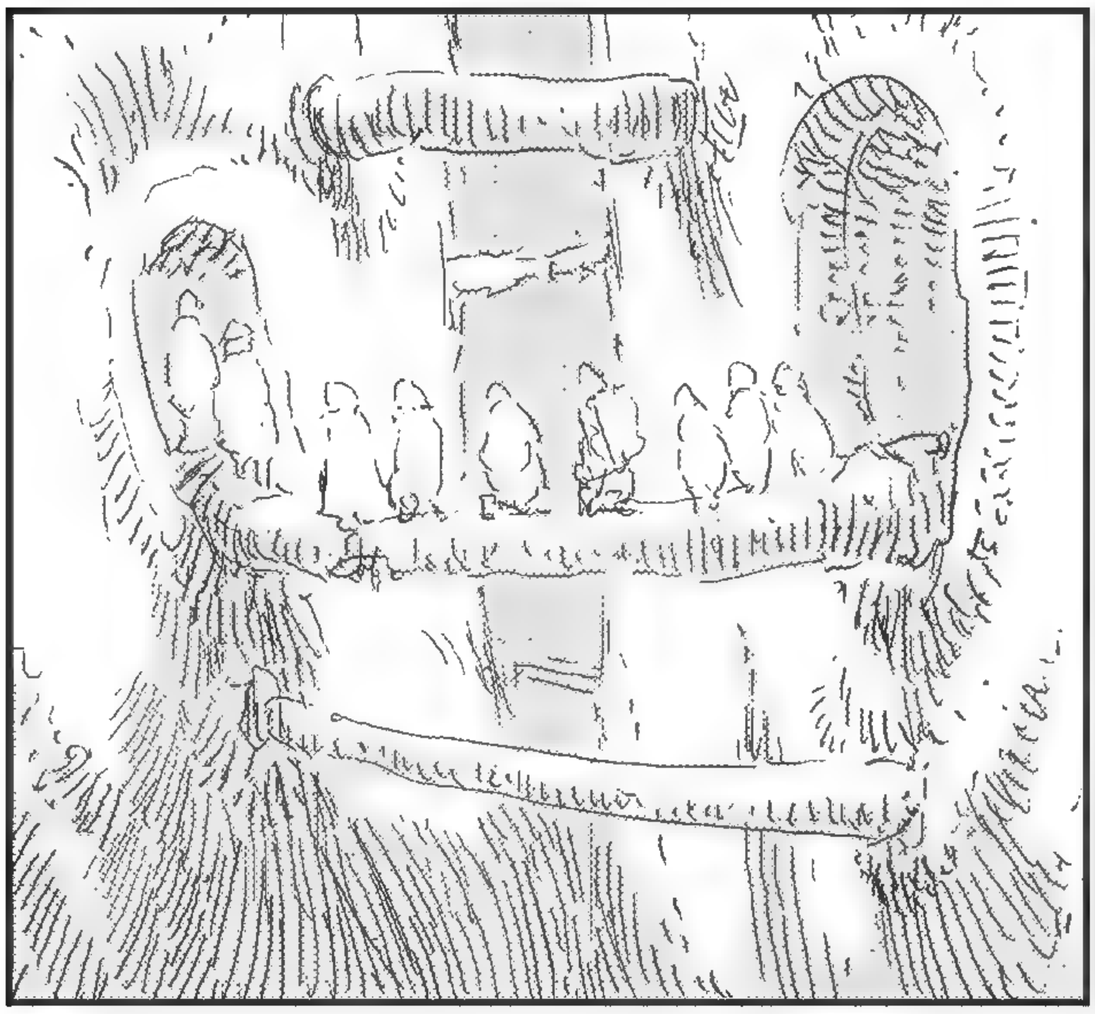
ZWRRRRRRR

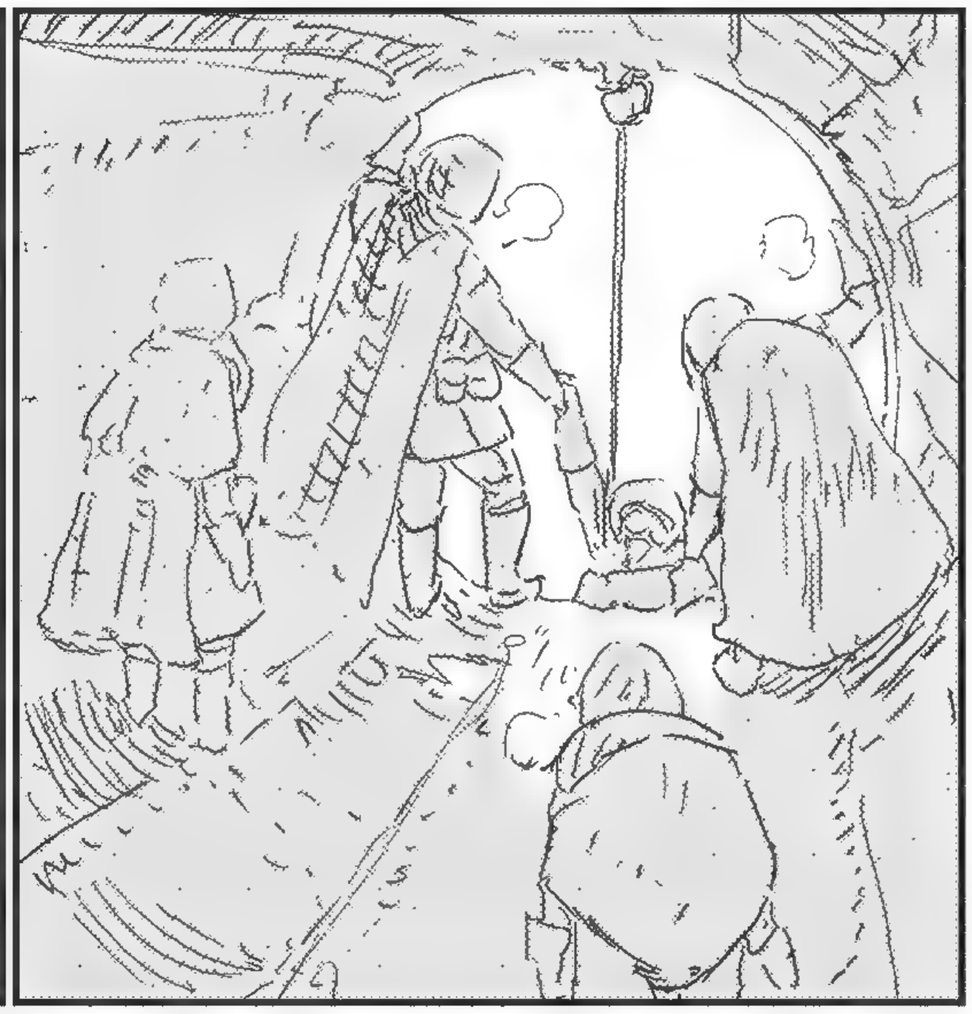
LET'S USE THE CUTTERS TO HACK THROUGH THE PIPES.











LET'S KILL THEM.

WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO DETOUR AROUND THEM.

PIPE-CROSSERS.

BGAK

BKAK

KRAK

KRAK

PONPPONP

PONP

TWITCH

TWITCH

GRA

CHOOM

!!

RUN FOR IT!

IT'S THE ONE THAT LEFT THOSE DROP-PINGS!

IT'S THE PIPE-CROSSER! IT'S HUGE !!

THE PLACE THAT THE EMISSARY SAID!

THIS IS IT!

IT'S A DEAD END!!

GSHAK

GSHAK

THIS IS A DOOR!

GSHAK

I'M HITTING IT WITH A PARALYSIS GRENADE!

CHOOM

BLAAM

ズ" ズ" NNZZ

IT'S ON THE MOVE AGAIN! HURRY!

キ" KRIK

ギギ GRRK

PUSH ! PUSH !

IT'S OPEN!

EVERY-BODY IN!

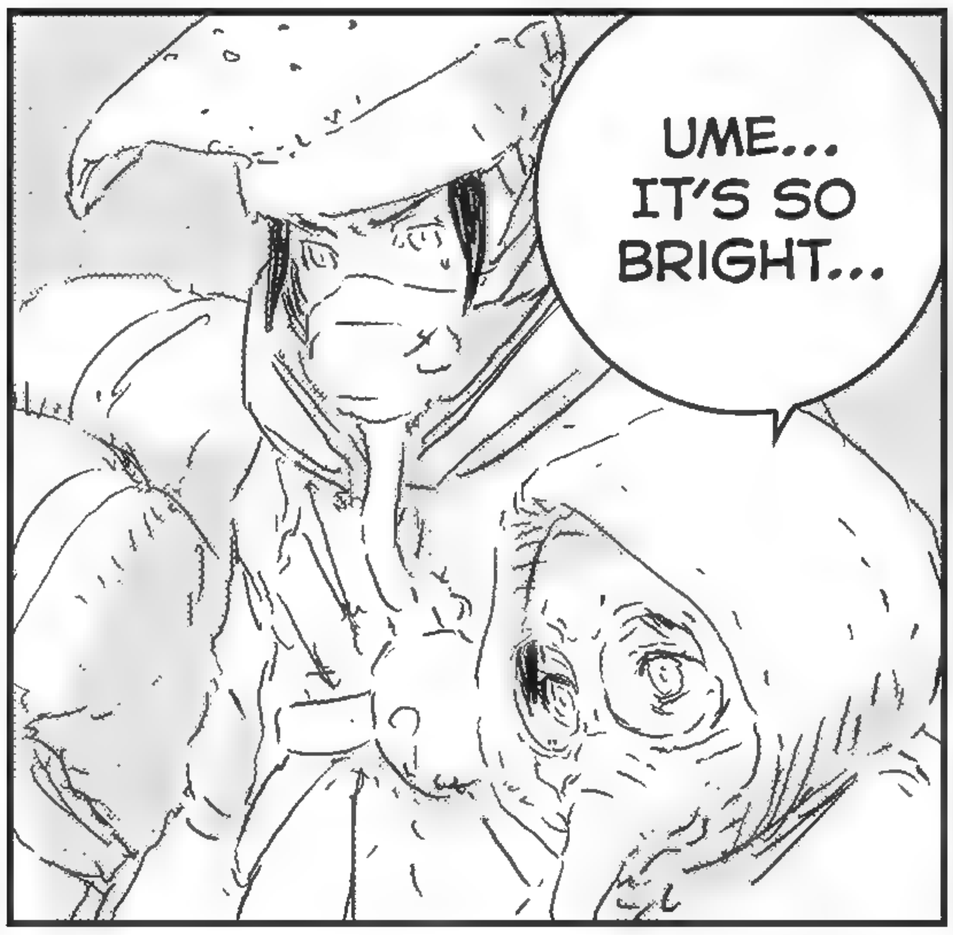
ZWOOM

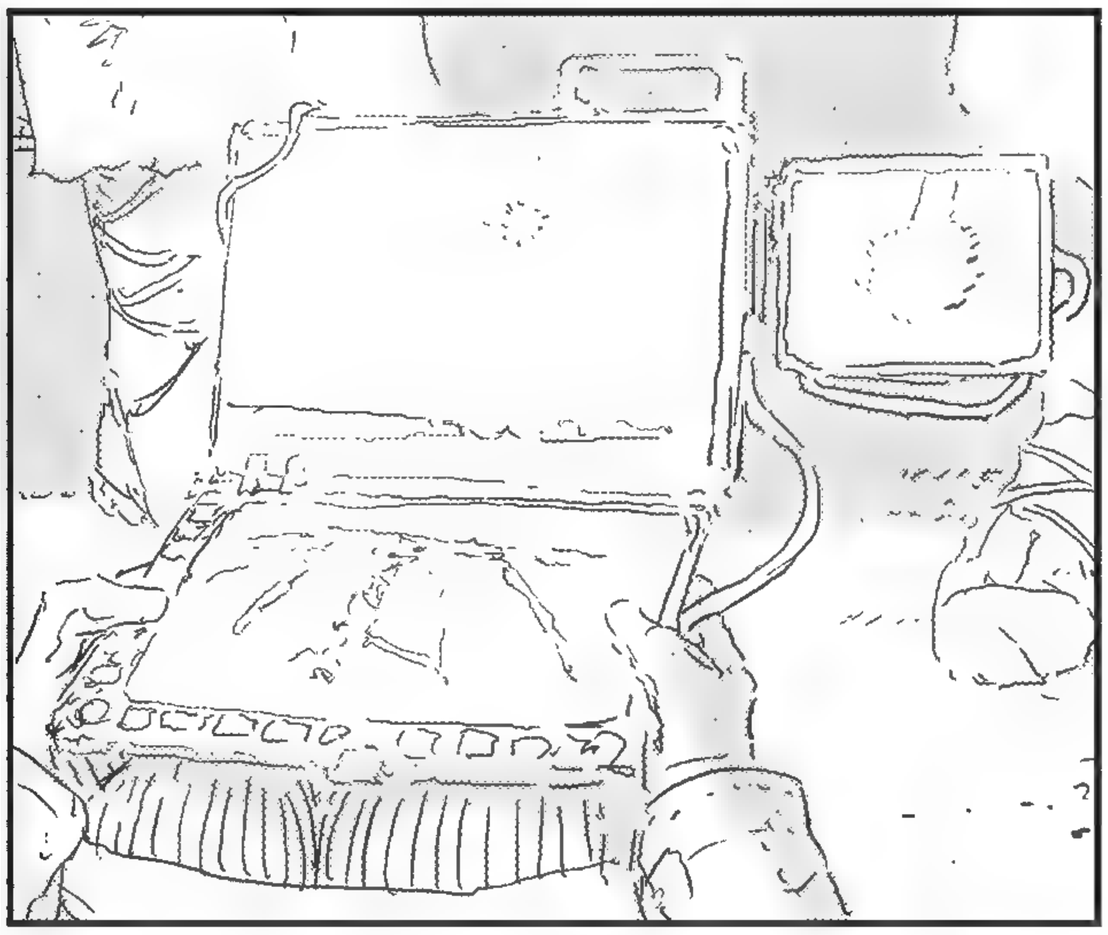
...YES.

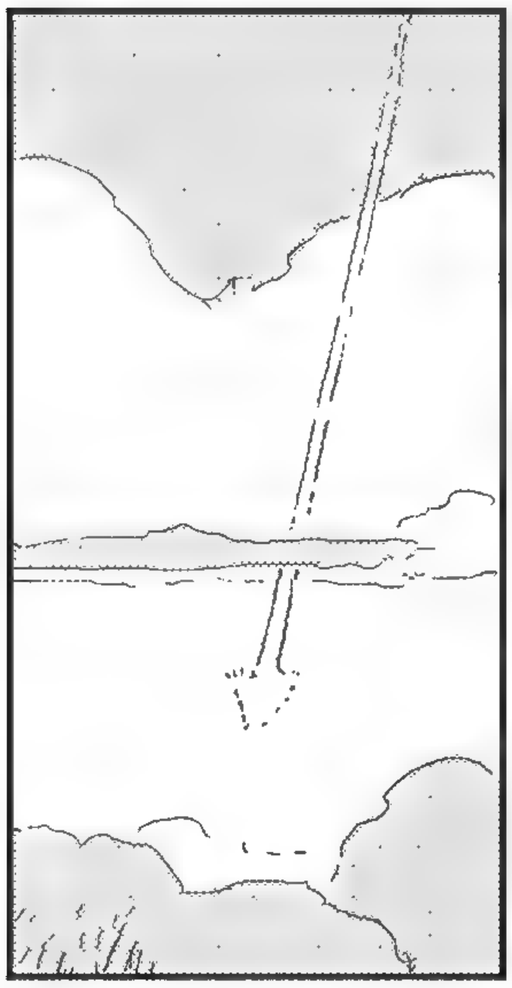
THE EMISSARY FROM THE CORE TOLD US TO COME HERE.

ALL YOU PEOPLE TOO...?

POPS, IT'S UME!

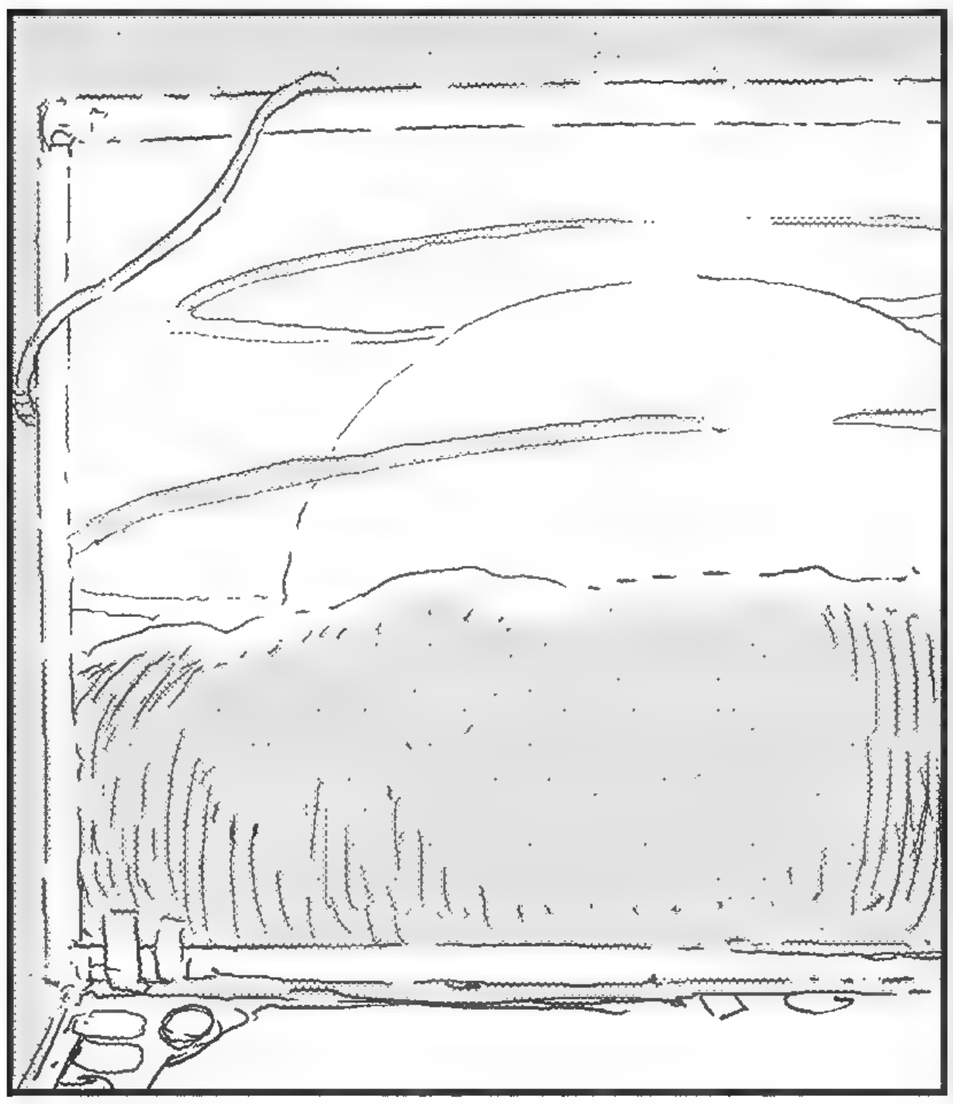

UME...
IT'S SO
BRIGHT...

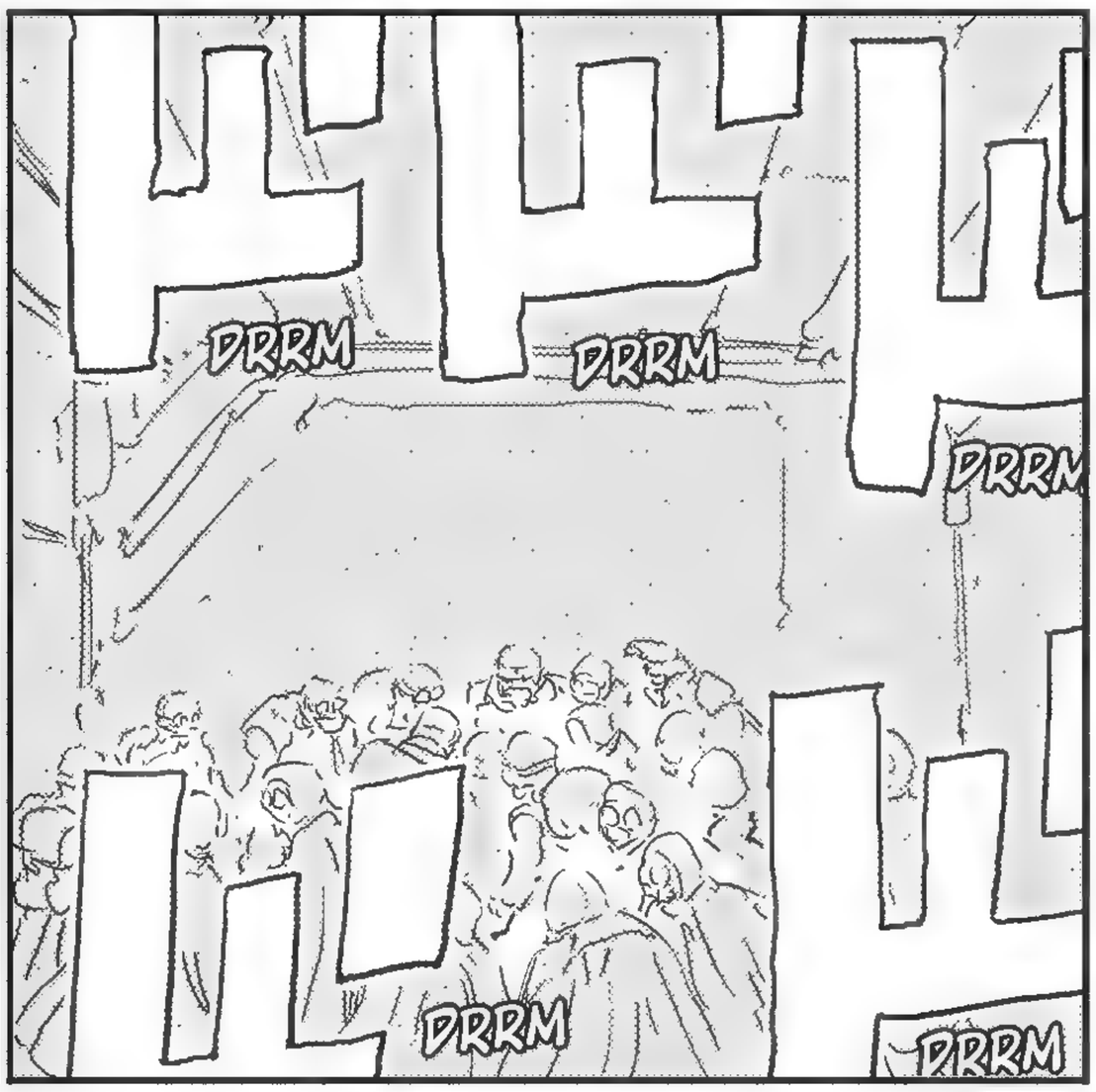











DRRM
DRRM
DRRM
DRRM
DRRM

DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
DOOM
GOGOOMM
WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO WAIT UNTIL IT SETTLES.
THE UNDER-GROUND IS CRUMBLING.
GOONG
GGRR
ZMM
ZMM
IT'S STILL SOUNDING IN THE DISTANCE.
GOGONG
GGRR
GGRR
IS IT TRUE THERE USED TO BE A LOT OF THINGS IN THE SKY LIKE UME A LONG TIME AGO?
YOU PEOPLE ARE FROM IRF NIKK, AREN'T YOU?
I WONDER WHY THEY'RE ALL GONE.
DRINK ?
THANK YOU.
IT'S NOT SHOWING ANYTHING.
SHIT.

DOES THAT MEAN SOMEBODY PISSED OFF GOD THIS TIME, TOO?

AND THAT'S WHY IT BECAME DIFFICULT TO LIVE ON THE SURFACE.

GOD WAS ANGERED, AND SO THEY ALL FELL.

...

BUT I WISH GOD HAD JUST PUNISHED *THEM.*

MAYBE IT'S 'CAUSE OF THE EMPIRE DIGGING UP THE UNDER-GROUND LIKE CRAZY.

ガゴーン
GAKUNG

SHALL I HAVE A QUICK LOOK OUTSIDE?

IT'S MOSTLY QUIETED DOWN.

GRIK
コキ

GRIK
コキ

AAAH!

ゴオオオオオ

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

WOOOOOOO

ガラガラ

WR
R
K

MUCH COLDER EVEN THAN BEFORE...

IT WILL BE COLD SOON ENOUGH!

AND IT'S SO WARM!

EVERYTHING AROUND US IS DESTROYED!

ヒュウ

WHOOOO

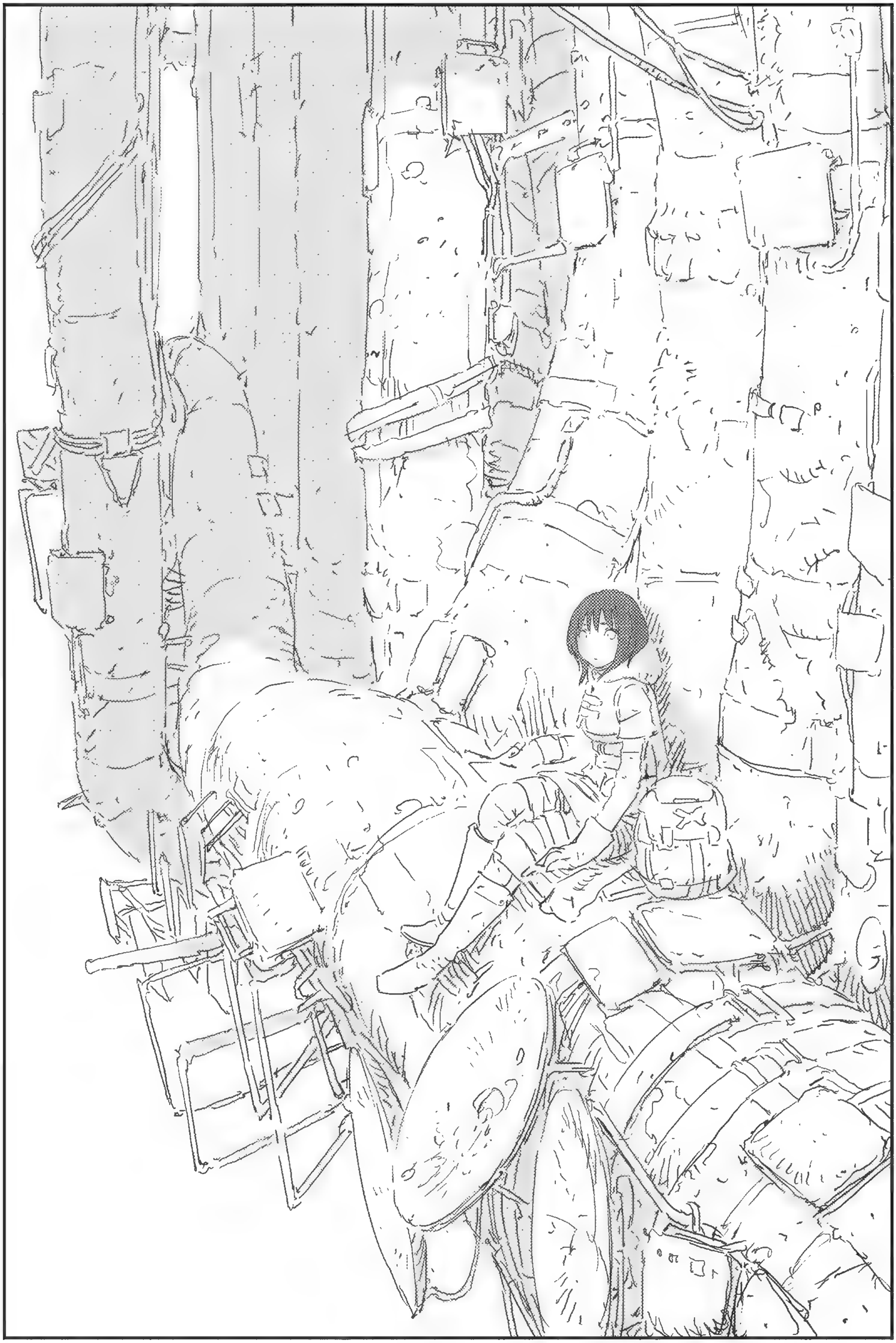
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CHAPTER 25 END

APOSIMZ

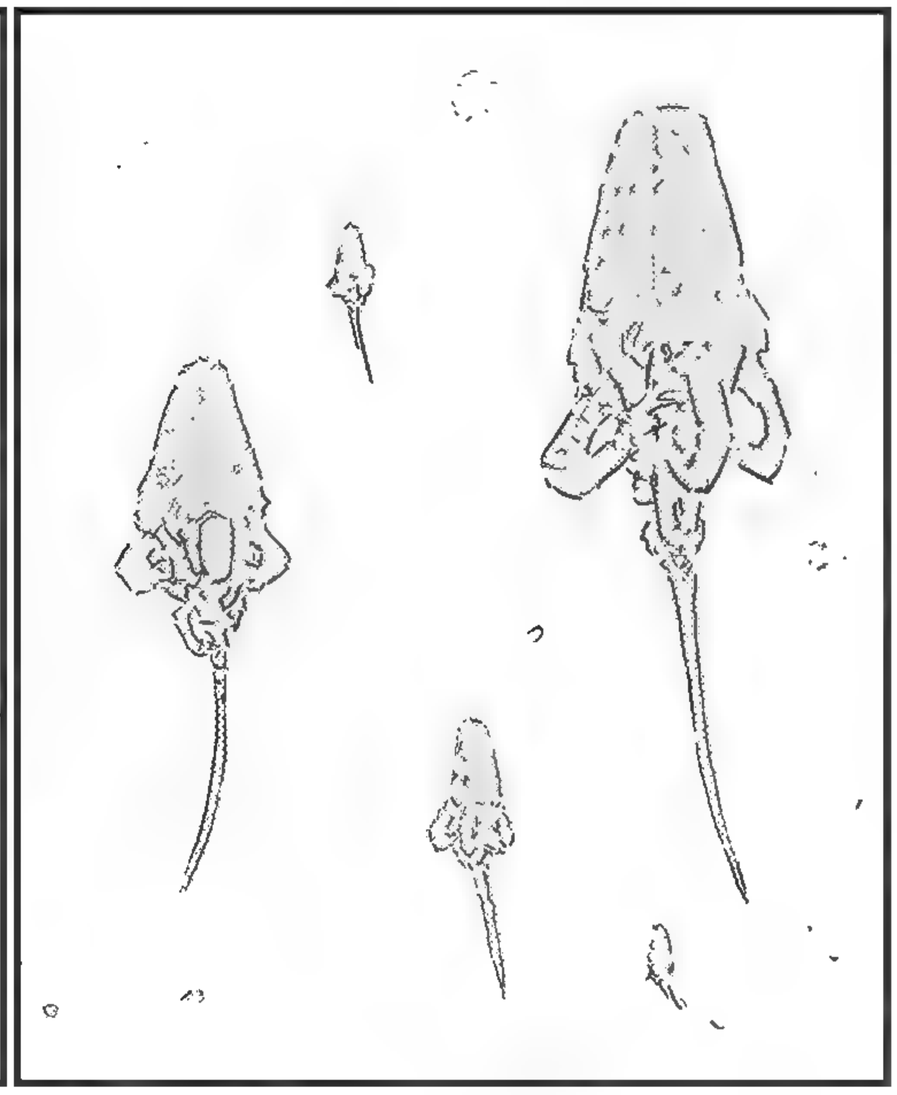


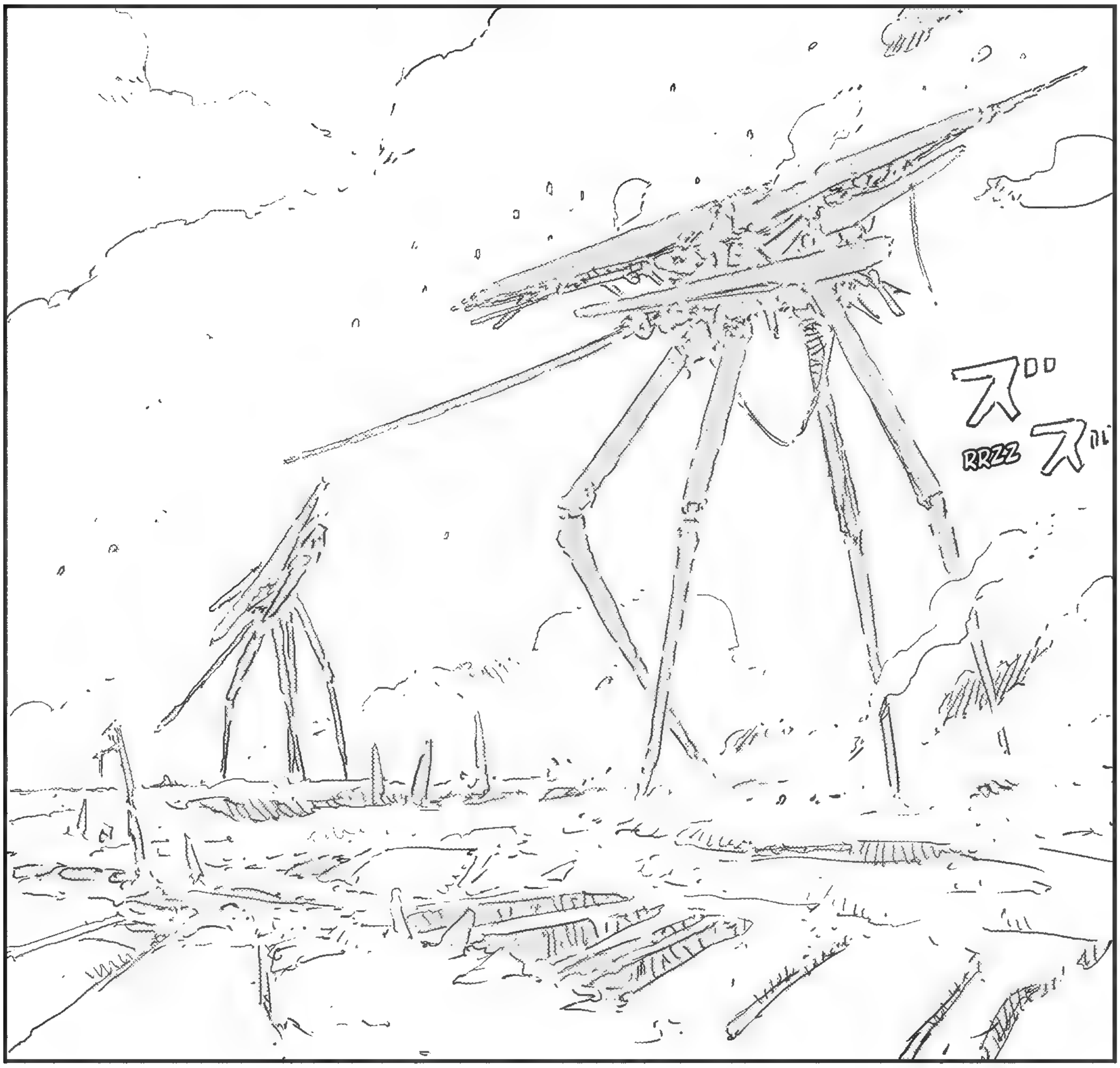
CHAPTER 26



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RRZZ

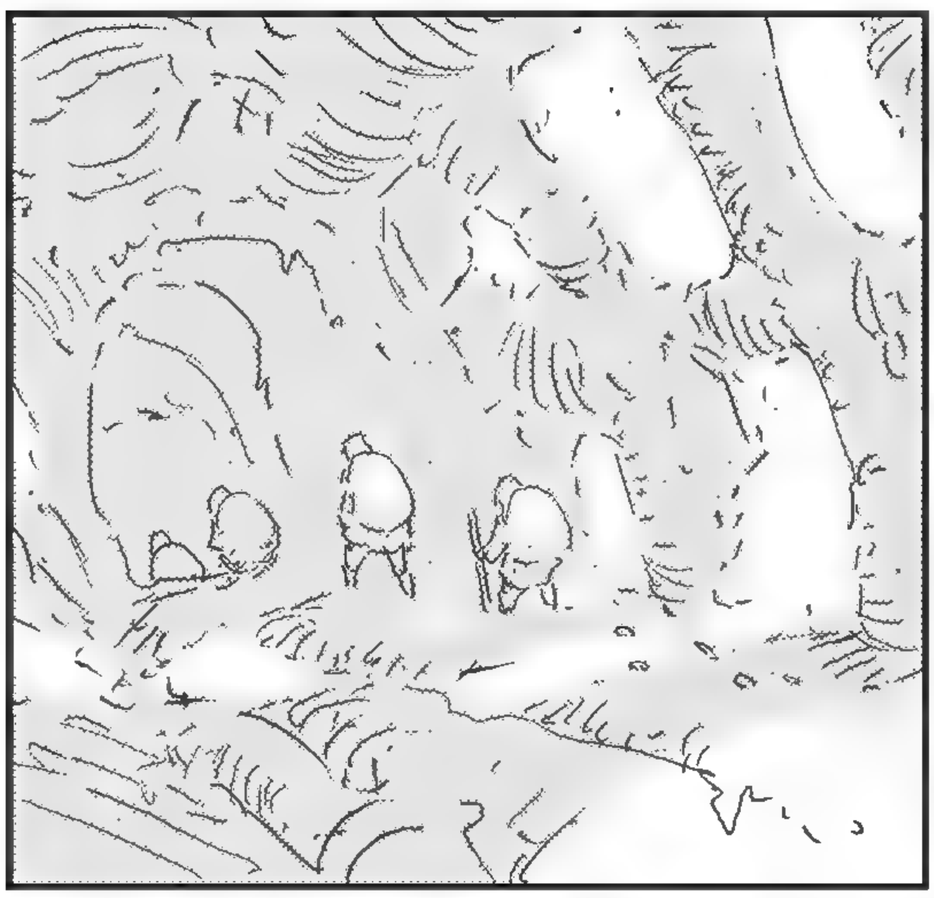




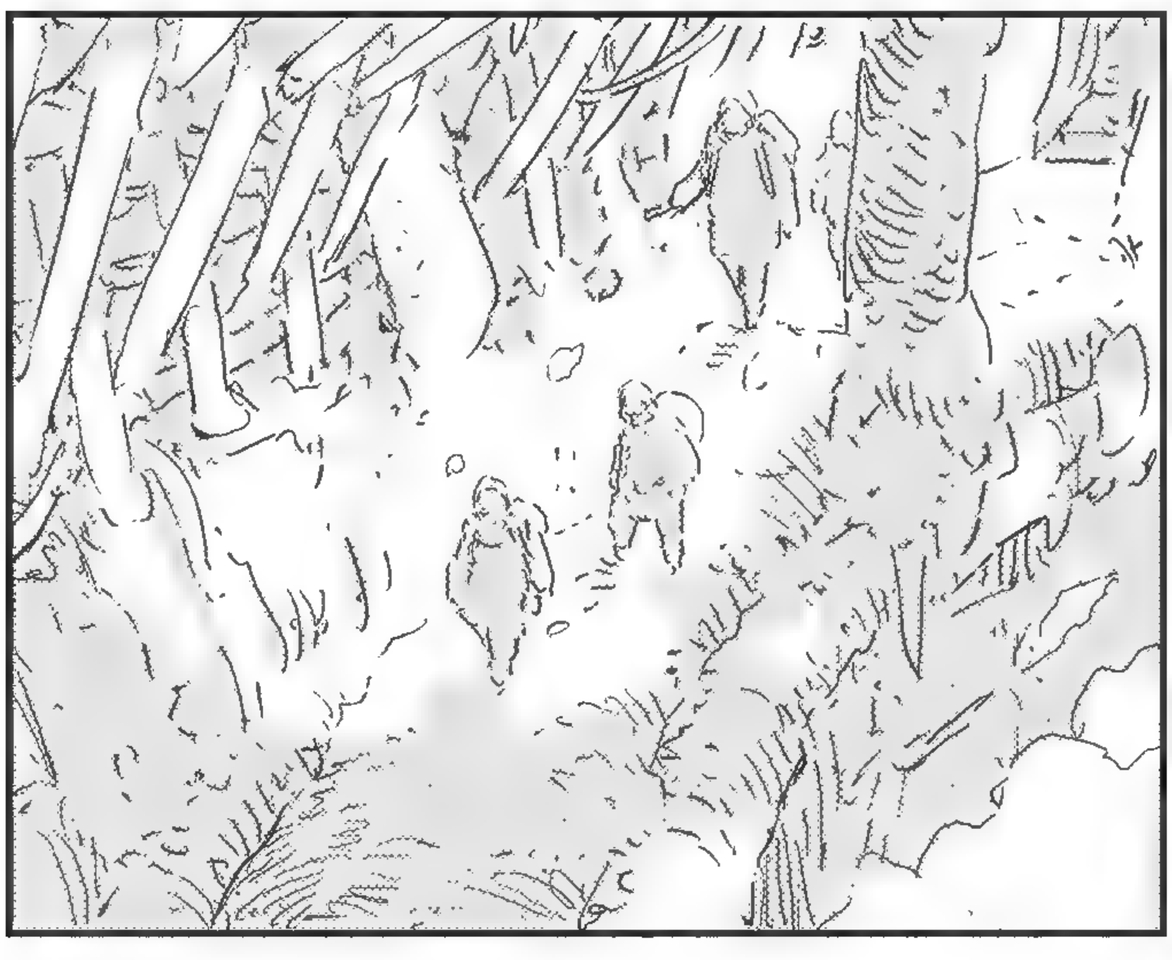
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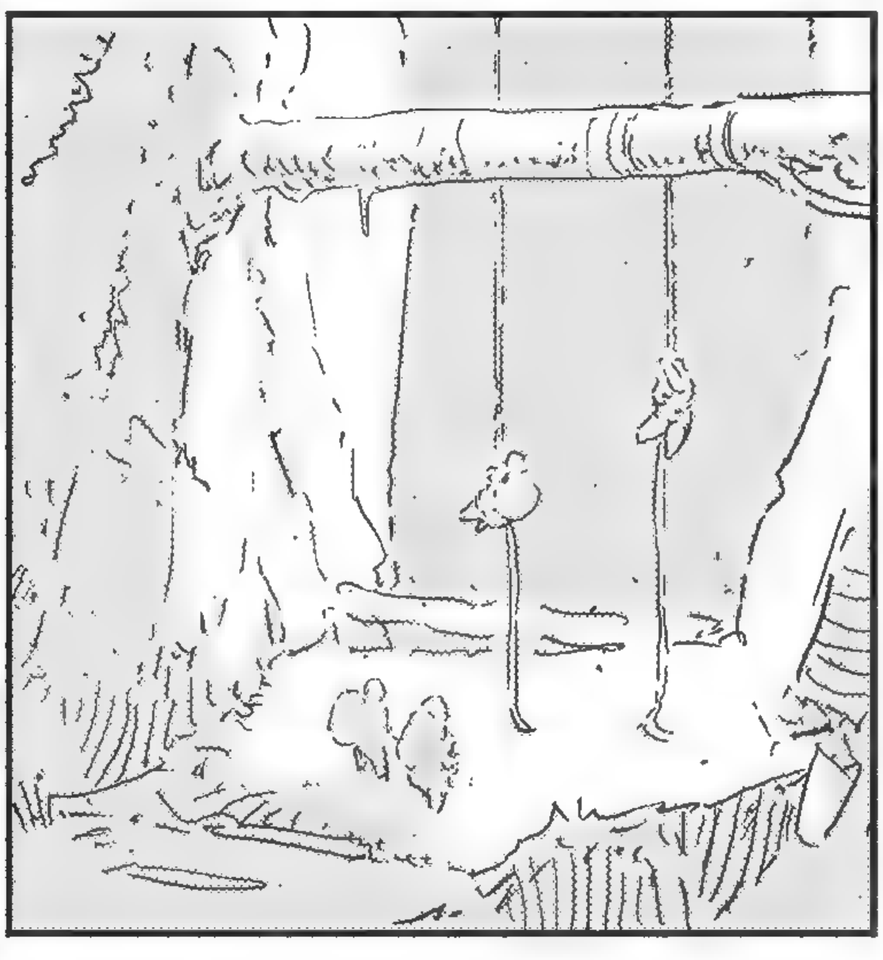
RRZZ ズ゛゛


ズズン
ZZMM









HOW WAS IT?

YOU MADE IT BACK!

OH!

EVERY SINGLE PIPE WAS BROKEN BY UME'S IMPACT.

AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE...

EVERY FACILITY THAT COULD'VE BEEN A HEAT SOURCE HAS BEEN TOTALLY DESTROYED, TOO.

IN-CREDIBLY COLD.

WITHOUT A HEAT MASK, YOU WOULDN'T LAST TEN SECONDS OUT THERE.

WHMMM

WE'D THOUGHT IT'D BE A BIT WARMER ON THE SURFACE, BUT...

I SEE...

IT'S STILL BETTER UNDER-GROUND.

WHAT'S MORE, THERE ARE AUTOMATONS EVERYWHERE THAT HAVE GATHERED FOR REPAIRS.

HAD A HIGHER AIR TEMP THAN THE AREAS AROUND IT THANKS TO UME IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THE NORTHERN COMPOSITE SLAB REGION

JUST HOW LONG IS IT GOING TO GO ON LIKE THIS?

FOR-EVER.

EVEN IF WE HAD HEAVY GEAR AND WORE IT ALL THE TIME, WE'D ONLY LAST A WEEK, AT MOST.

WE DON'T HAVE NEARLY ENOUGH TIME OR RESOURCES TO PREPARE OUTFITS FOR ALL OF US TO ENDURE A REGION OF EXTREME COLD!

SO THE TEMPERATURE'S NOT GONNA GO BACK TO WHAT IT WAS BEFORE?

IF WE COULD FIND EVEN ONE HOT WATER PIPE...

WE'LL ALL FREEZE TO DEATH UNLESS WE FIND ANOTHER HEAT SOURCE BEFORE THE COMBUSTIBLE GAS IN THESE PIPES RUNS OUT.

ホォオオ

WHMMM

GKUNG

FWOOMM

KSHANK

KSHANK

DEPLOY.

RHIZO-CEPHALA FIXED IN PLACE, CONFIRMED.

THE EMPIRE'S FAKE PIPE-CROSSERS.

THOSE ARE...

JJVVT

TONK

TONK

TONK

TONK

ガシャーン
KSHNN

BIPBIP

AN AUTOMATON CONTROLLED BY JATE...

IT ALMOST NOTICED ME...

ANY CHANGE?

DID YOU SEE OUTSIDE WITH YOUR MACHINE STUMP?

CLOMP

SWRRRR

WELCOME BACK, KEISHA.

THE EMPIRE'S SUDDENLY GOTTEN VERY SERIOUS. I WONDER IF WE'LL BE OKAY.

PKTCHCH

I GUESS THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.

THEY'RE REALLY DESPERATE FOR THE AMBS.

THEY'RE FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR US.

THE EMPIRE HAS DEPLOYED A LARGE FORCE TO THE NORTHERN COMPOSITE SLAB REGION.

PKAK

CAN ONLY BE OPENED BY ME.

ALSO, THE DOOR OF THE MEGASTRUCTURE ISOLATION SHELTER WE'RE IN

SHOOP

THEY WON'T DISCOVER US BEFORE I BECOME AWARE OF THEM.

THE RANGE OF MY SENSITIVITY IS BROADER THAN THE EMPIRE'S FAKE AUTO-MATONS.

GULP

CRUNCH CRUNCH

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOING IT BECAUSE I LIKE IT!

AS I'VE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES, THIS IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHOD.

IS THIS REALLY THE WAY IT HAS TO BE DONE...?

BY THE WAY, TITANIA...

FFSSS

HE'S LOST FAR TOO MANY PARTS.

INDEED ...

SEEMS LIKE IT'LL BE YEARS BEFORE ETHEROW IS HEALED.

PLIP

WE NEED PLACENTA FOR THAT!

AND I WANT ETHEROW TO BE BACK THE WAY HE WAS, QUICKLY.

IF WE JUST LEAVE THE EMPIRE BE, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WILL DIE.

I *WILL* HUNT SOME REINCAR-NATEDS AFTER ALL!

IF YOU DO, WE'LL BE ABLE TO STRIKE FIRST.

ESPECIALLY IF WE FIGHT ONE-ON-ONE, WE'LL HAVE THE ADVAN-TAGE.

SO COME WITH ME, TITANIA.

YOU CANNOT FIGHT THE EMPIRE ALONE.

...

AND ETHEROW WILL BE SAFE WHILE HE'S IN THIS SHELTER.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JATE. OVER HERE.

ONE OF OUR MEN DIED, SEVERAL SUFFERED MINOR INJURIES.

SO WE TRIED TO SUBDUE HIM, BUT HE RESISTED...

HE DESTROYED ONE OF OUR AUTO-MATONS,

YES.

YOU SAY HE KILLED A SOLDIER?

THEY'RE JUST WALKING CORPSES.

COULD SOMEONE WITH FRAME DISEASE HAVE DONE THIS?

BUT...

BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AN UNSIGHTLY RAW BODY BEFORE.

THIS IS A FRAME DISEASE SUFFERER.

HE LOOKS SOMEWHAT LIKE A REGULAR FRAME THAT'S HAD HIS PLACENTA PEELED OFF.

HE SUDDENLY CAME TO US THIS MORNING AND LEFT SOME FOOD FOR US.

N-NO! WE DON'T KNOW HIM!

DID YOU PEOPLE KNOW THAT FRAME?

THEY WERE NEARBY, SO WE APPREHENDED THEM.

WHO ARE THEY?

WHY DID THAT FRAME TRY TO HELP YOU PEOPLE?

I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHO HE REALLY WAS.

I'M NOT GOING TO BLAME YOU.

YOU NEEDN'T BE AFRAID.

THERE WAS AN IMPERIAL AUTOMATON MIXED UP IN THERE!

WE DIDN'T DO IT!

EEEEEEEK!

BELIEVE US!

IT'S NO USE. THEY'RE TOO STUPID. THIS IS POINTLESS.

TRY KILLING THEM ONE BY ONE.

THAT FILTHY FRAME REALLY SHOULD'VE MINDED HIS OWN BUSINESS...

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING! I HAVE NO MEMORY OF ASKING HIM FOR ANYTHING!

GUEUEUEUH!

AWRGH!

KOFF!

KOFF! KOFF!

GRUP

AAUGH!!

!!

SLUMP

KOFF! KOFF!

P-PLEASE WAIT!

NO! STOP!!

RRGG

PLUP GLUP GLUP GLUP

HE WAS WALKING THROUGH A VERY COLD REGION WITH NO MASK, LIKE IT WAS NOTHING.

I SAW A STRANGE MAN IN THE EAST SEVERAL DAYS AGO.

BECAUSE, LIKE YOU, HE WASN'T BREATHING, EITHER.

YES... PROBABLY.

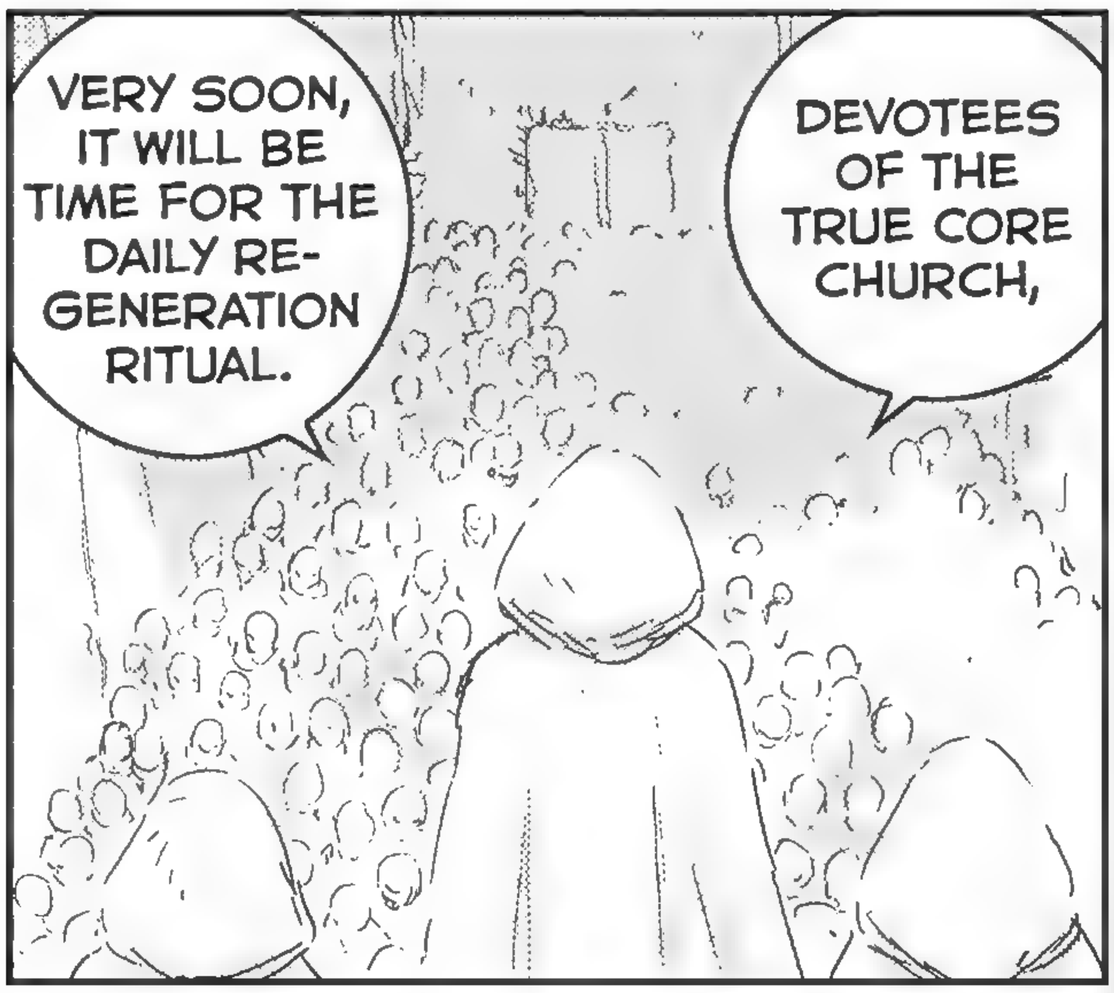
WAS HE A REGULAR FRAME?

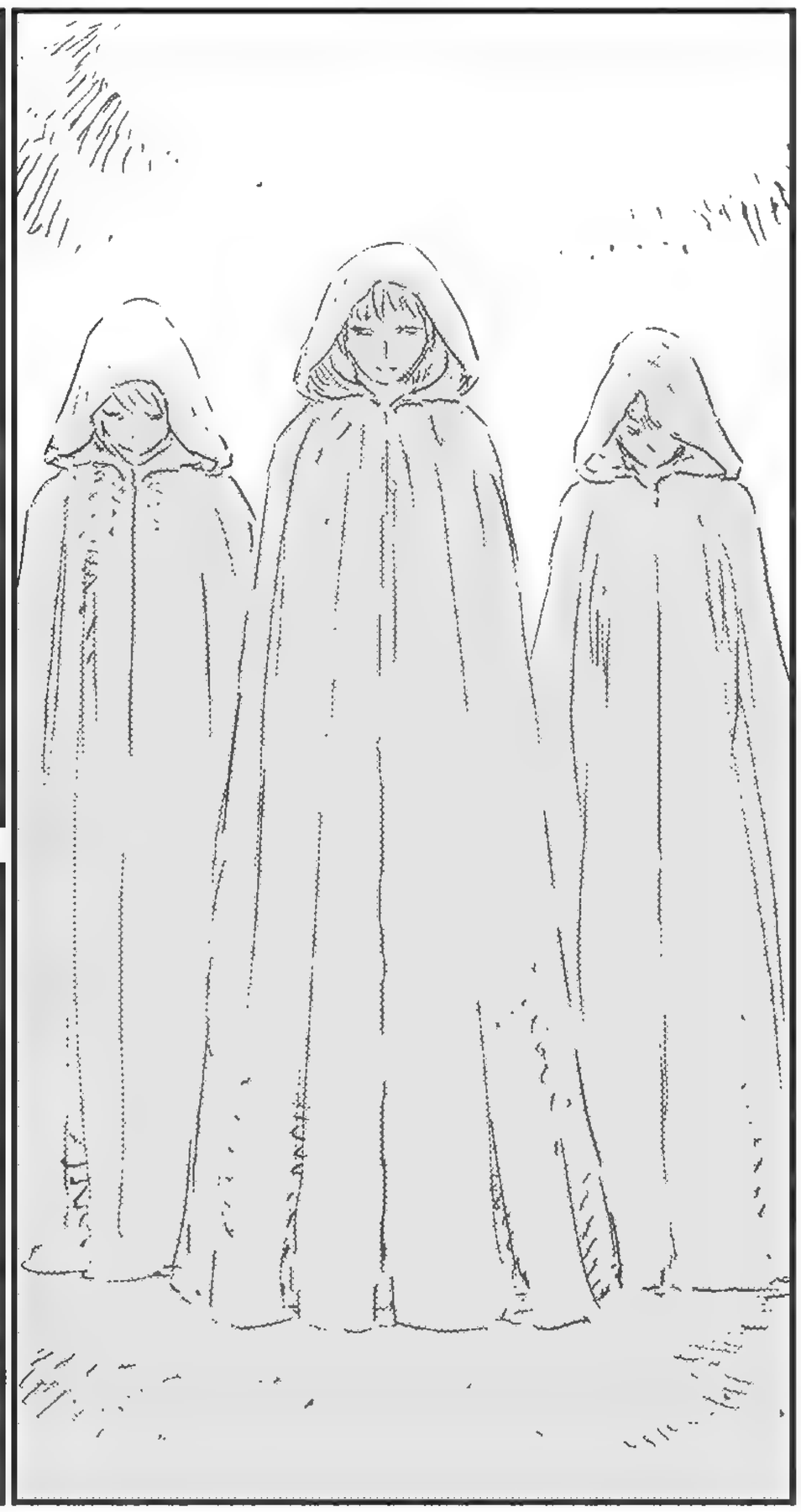
HE HAD SEVERAL FRAME DISEASE SUFFERERS FOLLOWING BEHIND HIM.

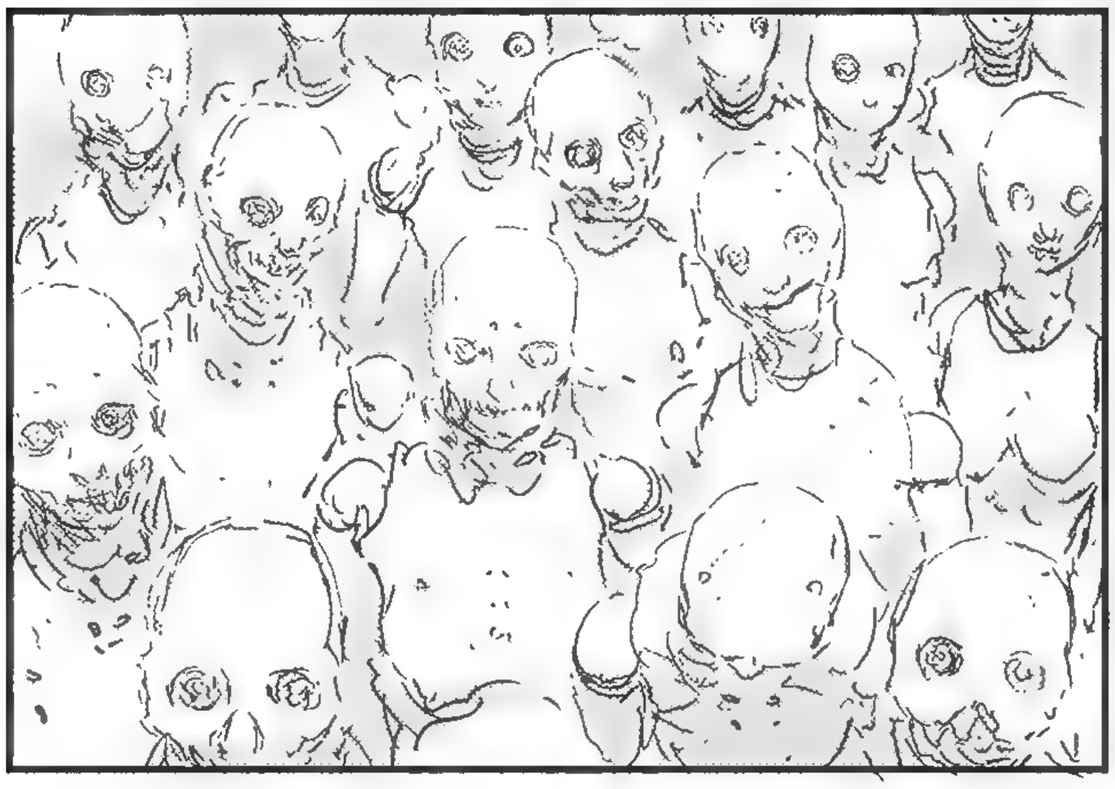
BUT HE WAS PECULIAR.






VERY SOON, IT WILL BE TIME FOR THE DAILY RE-GENERATION RITUAL.
DEVOTEES OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH,





YOU'RE THE ONE.

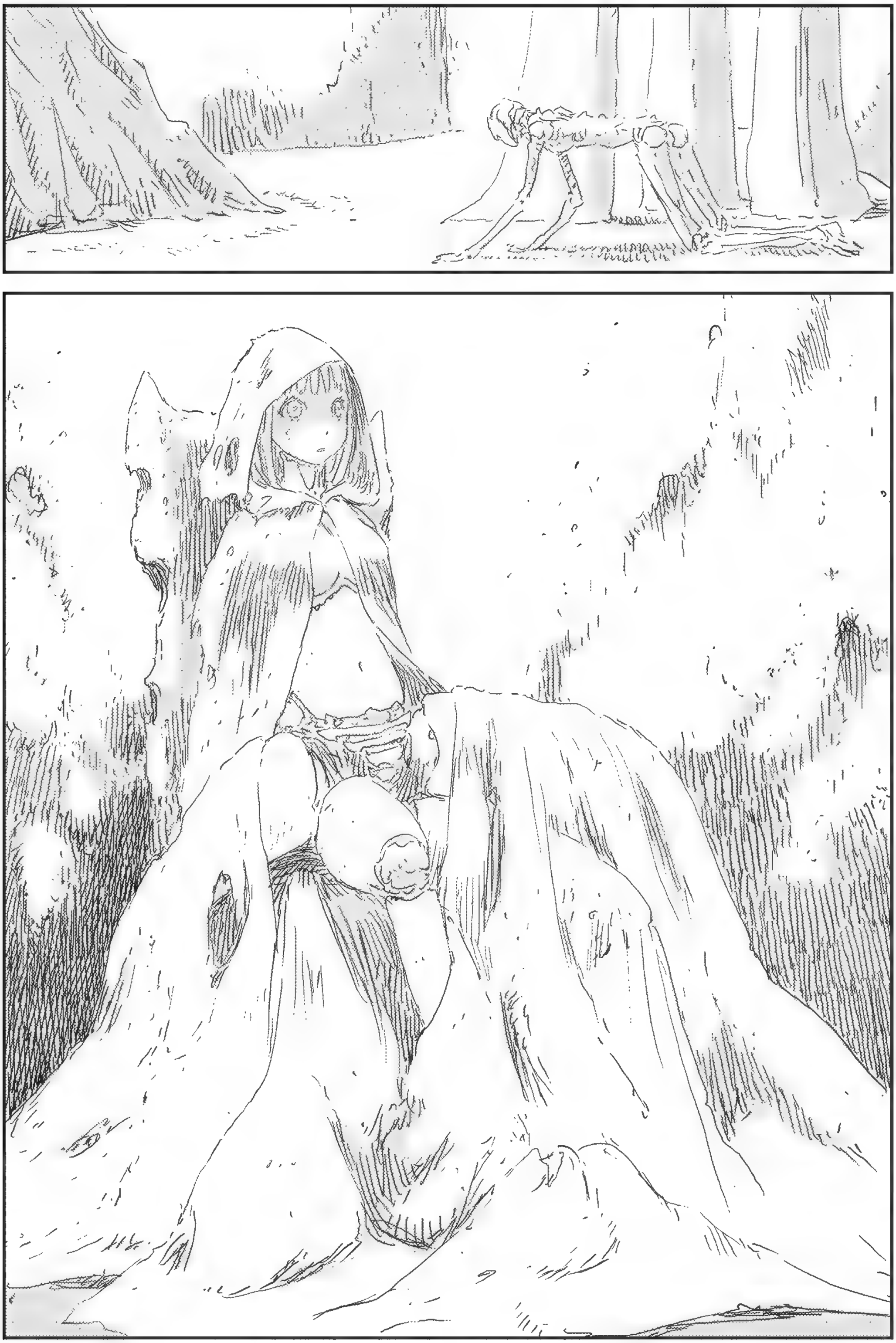
ALL RIGHT. THAT LADY THERE.

HMM.

HELP HER GET UP HERE.

BOTH OF YOU.

NOW, WHO SHALL BE TONIGHT'S *REGENER-ATED?*



CALL BACK THE SOUL OF THIS WOMAN.

NOW, EMISSARY OF THE GOD OF THE CORE,

ズ"ル
SHRFF

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

KRIKRAK

HAAAHH

KRIK

KRAK

ZZAP

CHOOM

BWAAAAASH

WELCOME BACK, REGENER-ATED.

AT LONG LAST, WE HAVE ONE IT SEEMS I CAN USE.

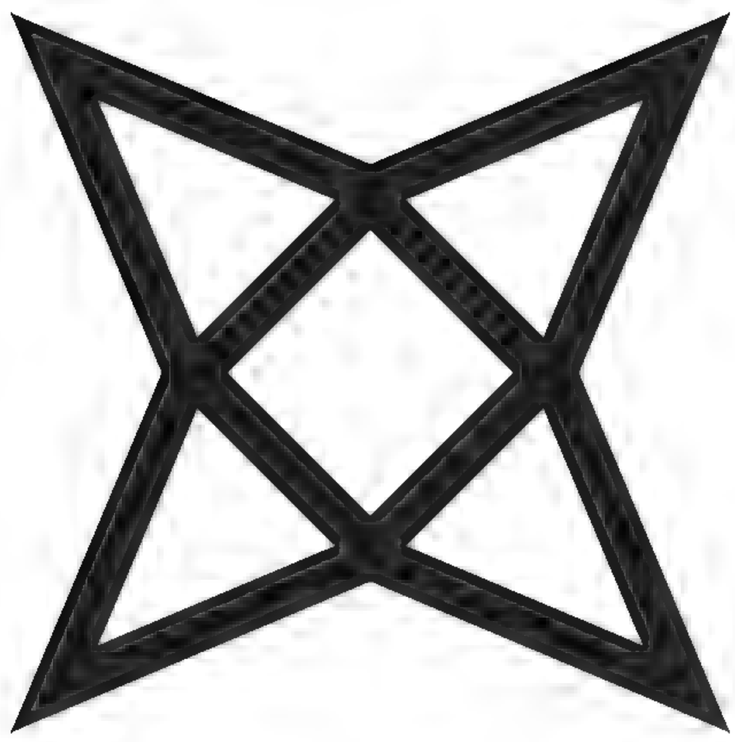
AH!

...?!

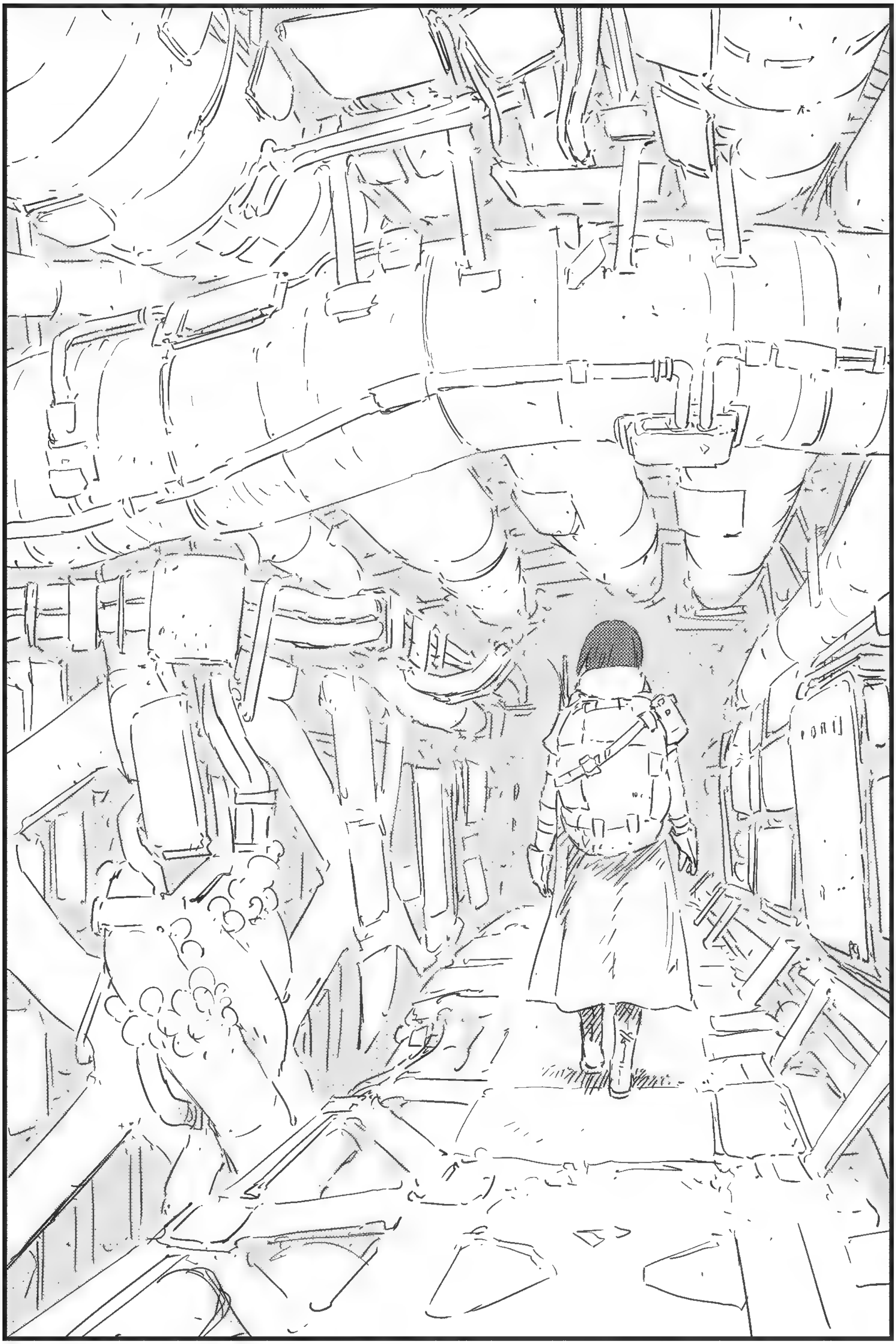
WHO ARE YOU?

CHAPTER 26 END

APOSIMZ



CHAPTER 27



WELL, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD SAY "DRAGNET FOR THE AMBS AND US" RATHER THAN "CONTROL" ...

ITS CONTROL OVER THE NORTHERN COMPOSITE SLAB REGION WITH GROUND ZERO AT THE CENTER.

THE EMPIRE IS ONCE AGAIN EXPANDING

TWO OR MORE REINCARNATEDS ARE POSTED AT EACH ONE AT ALL TIMES.

I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE AT LEAST SEVEN STRONGHOLDS AT PRESENT.

SECHIA IS NOT A TOP-RANK REINCARNATED, BUT HE IS A VERY EXPERIENCED AIR BULLET USER, AND IS VERY CAPABLE.

ARU SEEMS TO BE A NEWCOMER. I HAVE NO INFO ON HIM.

THE REIN-CARNATEDS SECHIA AND ARU ARE AT THAT BASE.

IF WE CAN MAKE A SURPRISE ATTACK AGAINST ONE OF THEM, WE CAN PULL THIS OFF SOMEHOW.

AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T BECOME TWO AGAINST ONE, IT WILL BE FINE.

IS THIS REALLY GOING TO BE OKAY, KEISHA?

THEY'LL DIE OF COLD IN THIS CAGE!

PLEASE! AT LEAST LET THE CHILDREN GO INTO THE BUILDING!

THEN THERE'S NO POINT.

IF WE DON'T LEAVE THEM WHERE THEY'RE CONSPICU-OUS,

LEAVE THEM.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO, SECHIA?

WRRRRRR

WHAT THE?!

!

SOUND THE ALARM!

WHAT'S WRONG?

A SUS-PICIOUS GROUP!

NO. THAT'S NOT FOR US.

DID THEY SPOT US?!

HUH?

WH-WHAT ARE THEY ?!

THERE IS NO PROBLEM. WE WILL PROCEED.

THIS IS OUR FIRST TIME. I WONDER IF IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

TWO EVIL FRAMES OF THE EMPIRE.

I AM THE REGENERATED JINATA, A DEVOTEE OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH!

WE HAVE COME HERE TO LIBERATE THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN COMPOSITE SLAB REGION!

SISTER JINATA IS NERVOUS, TOO.

SHUT UP.

THERE IS NO PARTIC-ULAR PROBLEM.

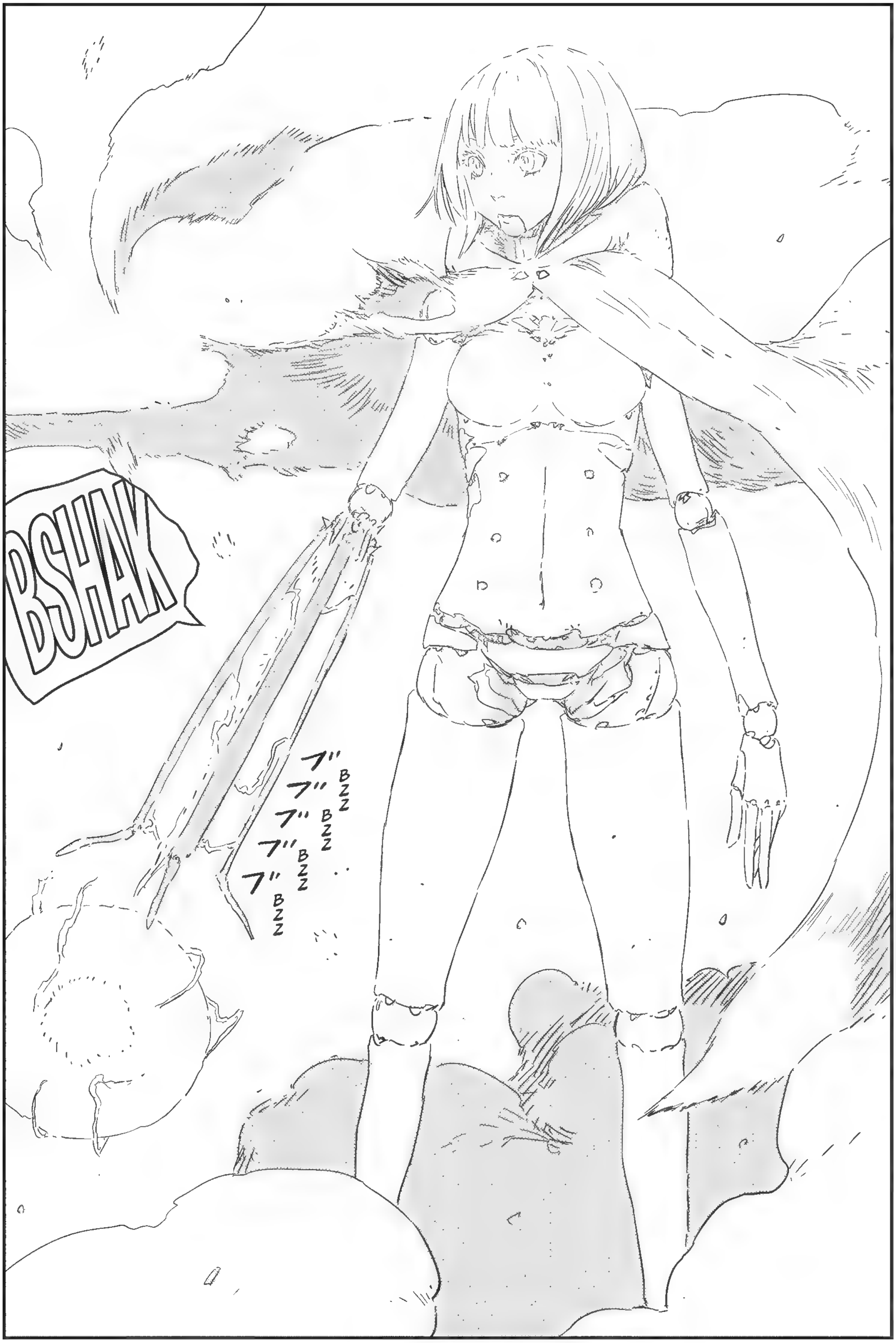
WHY DID YOU SAY IT TWICE?

SO SHE'S NOT A FRAME DISEASE SUFFERER!

SHE SPOKE?!

WE WILL LIBERATE THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN COMPOSITE SLAB REGION!

I AM THE REGENER-ATED JINATA, A DEVOTEE OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH!


BSHAK
ブ" BZZ
ブ" BZZ
ブ" BZZ
ブ" BZZ
ブ" BZZ

BKYOM

CHOOMM

ZZZMM

CHHRRRR

OUR SHIP!

THERE. NOW, GO!

KABWOOM

RRRUMBLE

TH- THEY'RE ATTACKING!

ヂュイ!!
ZWAPP

ZAT
ヒ"!!
ZAT
ヒ"!!

TRUD
TRUD
TRUD

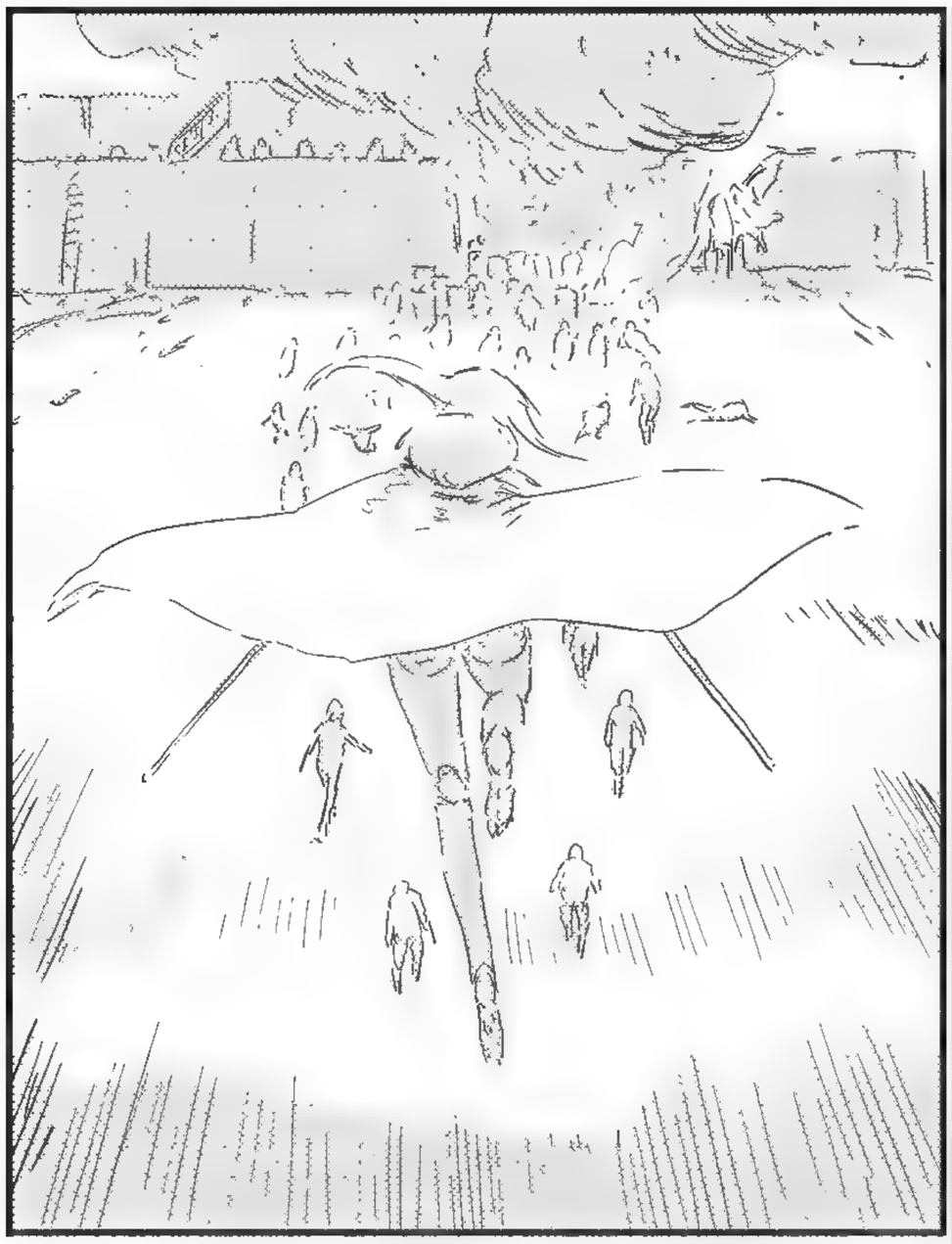
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GACHA
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GACHA

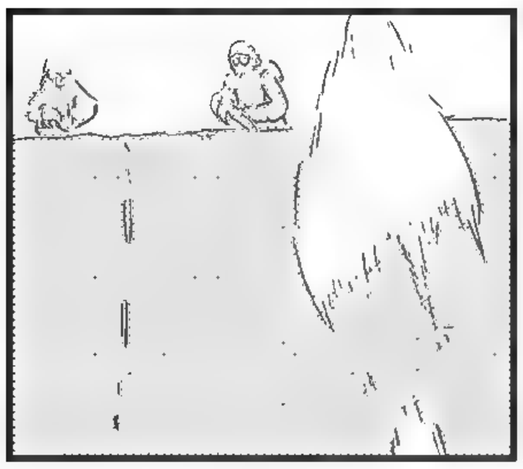
LET'S GO.

ス...
SHFF

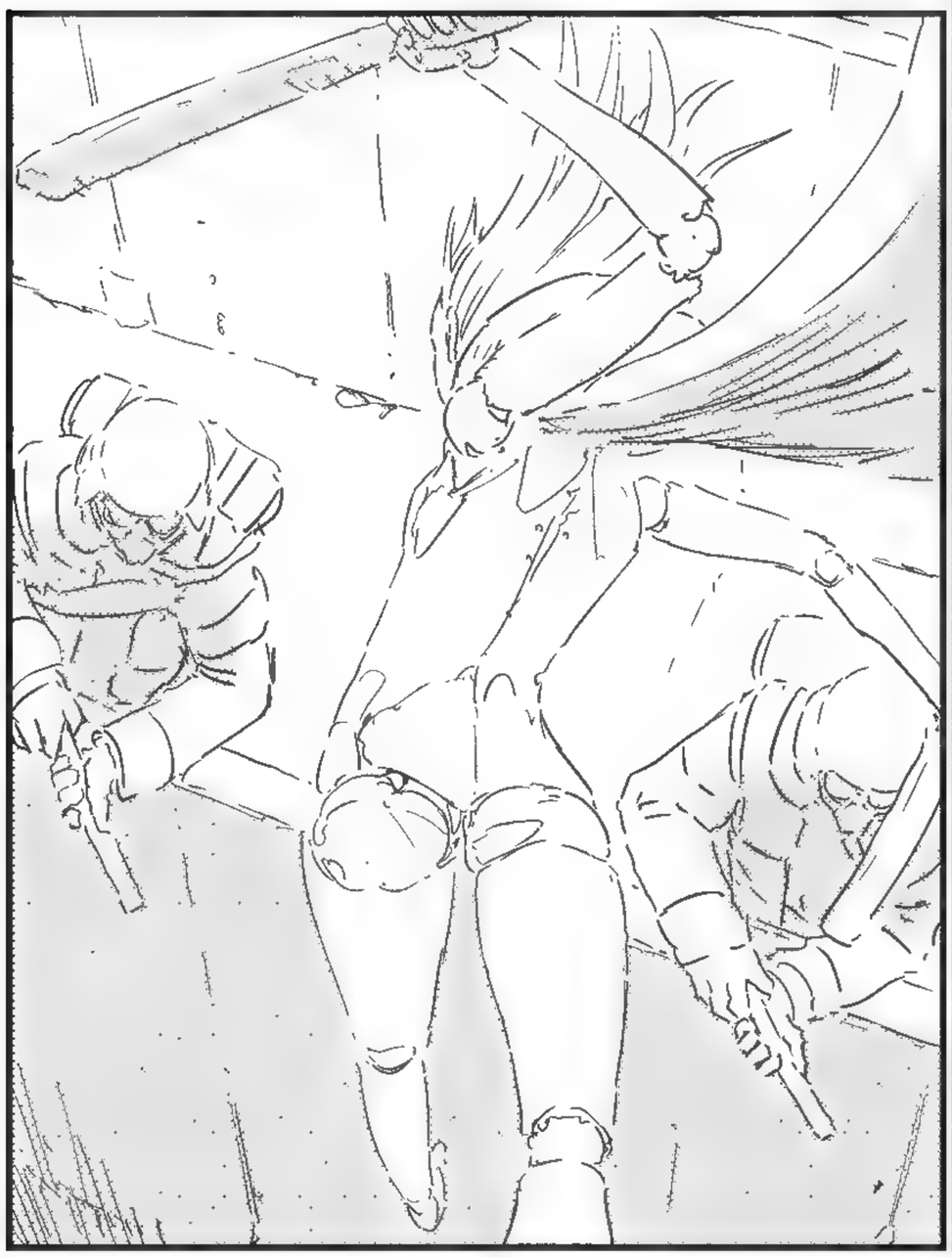
PANG
PKYOOM
キュ!!

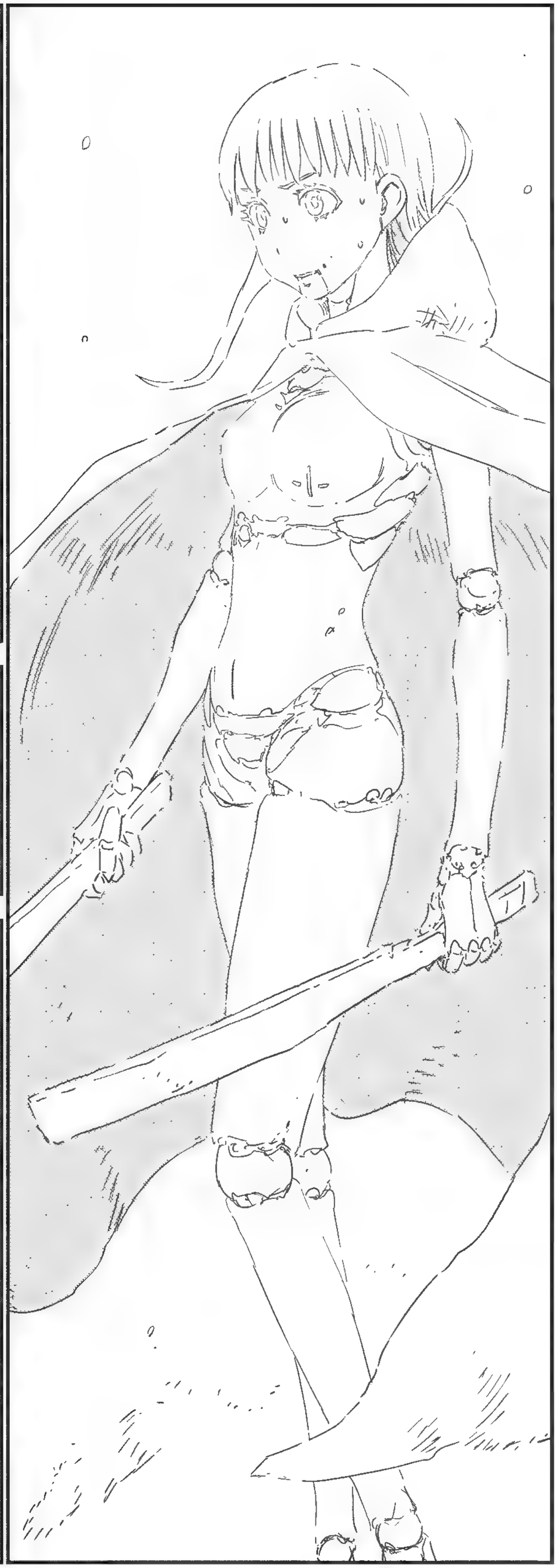
AIM FOR THEIR HEADS!
ビビ"
ZATZAT
ヒ"...
ZAP











BACHING

BACHING

WE CAN'T COUNT ON THE REINCAR-NATEDS!

ALL TROOPS, SORTIE!

SECHIA ?!

YOU LOT DO WHAT YOU CAN.

BCHING

KR-NG

REINCAR-NATED SIRS! PLEASE HELP US!

WE NEED TO FIRST LEARN THE ENEMY'S STRENGTH.

IT'S IMPORTANT WE GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

I-I LEARNED THAT THERE ARE DANGEROUS HUMANOID AUTOMATONS UNDERGROUND, BUT THESE DON'T SEEM TO BE THOSE EITHER.

ARU, WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY ARE?

WE AREN'T IMMORTAL, AFTER ALL.

THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE REGULAR FRAMES OR FRAME DISEASE SUFFERERS.

THUP

PANG

PKYOOM

THRUD

THRUD

THRUD

GAAH!

WE'RE FLOAT-ING?!

PWUM

!!!!

PWOM

PWM

FLOAT

GDNK

GCHAK

FWIT

FWIT

WHDUMP

THUD

THUMP

DWWSSHH

ALL RIGHT!

LET'S DO THIS!

VWOOSH

HIGH HAIGHS PARTICLES DETECTED! THE REINCAR-NATEDS ARE ARMORING UP!

I'LL HANDLE THE LEVITATION USER.

YOU DEAL WITH THE SHORT-RANGE ONE.

WE'LL TAKE OUT THE TWO IN FRONT OF US FIRST.

LEAVE HER FOR LATER.

SHE WON'T HIT US IF SHE FIRES FROM THAT POSITION.

AN ATTACK FROM ELEVATED GROUND AT A GREAT DISTANCE REQUIRES MUCH PRELIMINARY ACTION.

UNDER-STOOD!

BUT...

HER WEAPONS ARE MADE OF SEMI-MEGA-STRUCTURE.

THEY'VE GOT WEIGHT. IF I TAKE A FULL HIT FROM THEM, THEY'LL CRUSH BOTH MY ARMOR AND MY HEAD.

THE MEGA-STRUCTURE BLADE THAT JATE LENT ME SINCE I DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIAL ABILITIES!

KRIING

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT!

BA

GANK

PWOM

GRAK

WHUD

BA

CHOOM

PWOM

!!

SHOOMF

CHHKSSSK

SHWNN

WHEN DID SHE SHOW UP?!!

VVNN

KRIK

THAP

BLAM

JATE... I'M SORRY I WAS OF NO USE...

GRAH!!!

KBOOM

PWOM

PWMM

ガラ
CHRR

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR UNDER-ESTIMATING A REINCAR-NATED!

SHE'S IN PIECES NOW!

BLAM

WHAP

!

KASHAK

ベチャ
SPLOTCH

HHSSHH

ズ・SLRSH ル・・・

SLTCH ズル・・・

I'M NOT ALL RIGHT, BUT I'M ALIVE.

ARE YOU ALL ALL RIGHT?

PLACENTA RECOVERY COMPLETE.

SLORP

ZLRCH

TH-THANK YOU.

WH-WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

?!!

PLEASE TAKE OFF YOUR MASKS.

NOW THEN, EVERYONE ...

ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN LIBERATED FROM THEIR WEAK VESSELS OF FLESH

ARE PERMITTED TO LIVE IN THIS PLACE.

PLEASE REMOVE YOUR MASKS.

THIS IS APOSIMZ, NATION OF FRAMES.

AAAAAH!!

LET'S HELP THEM.

FIISA, TASURI.

LET'S RUN FOR IT.

THESE PEOPLE ARE ACTING WEIRD...!

...

IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE...

KEISHA, WAIT!

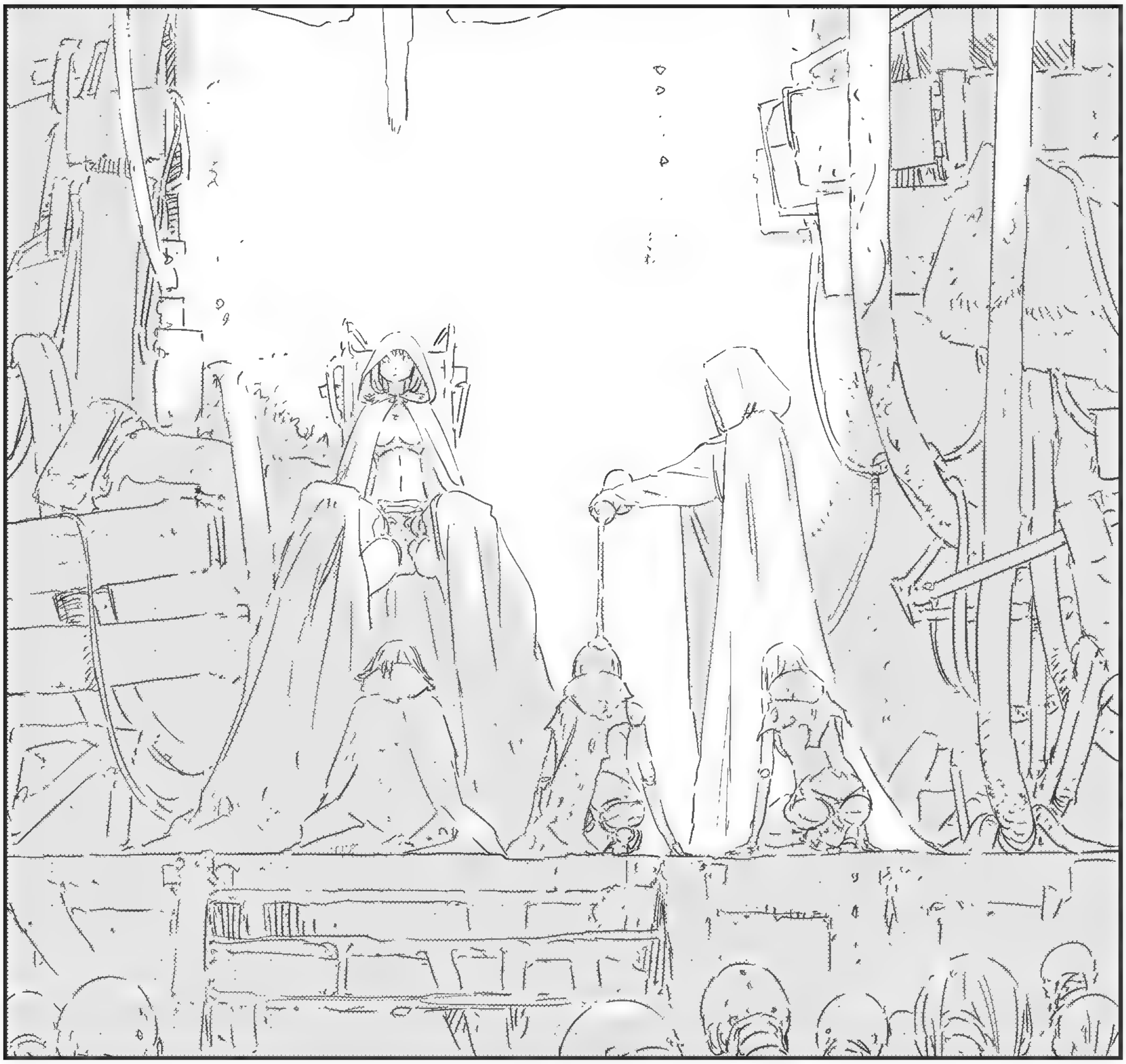
AN IMPERIAL SHIP IS HEADED THIS WAY!

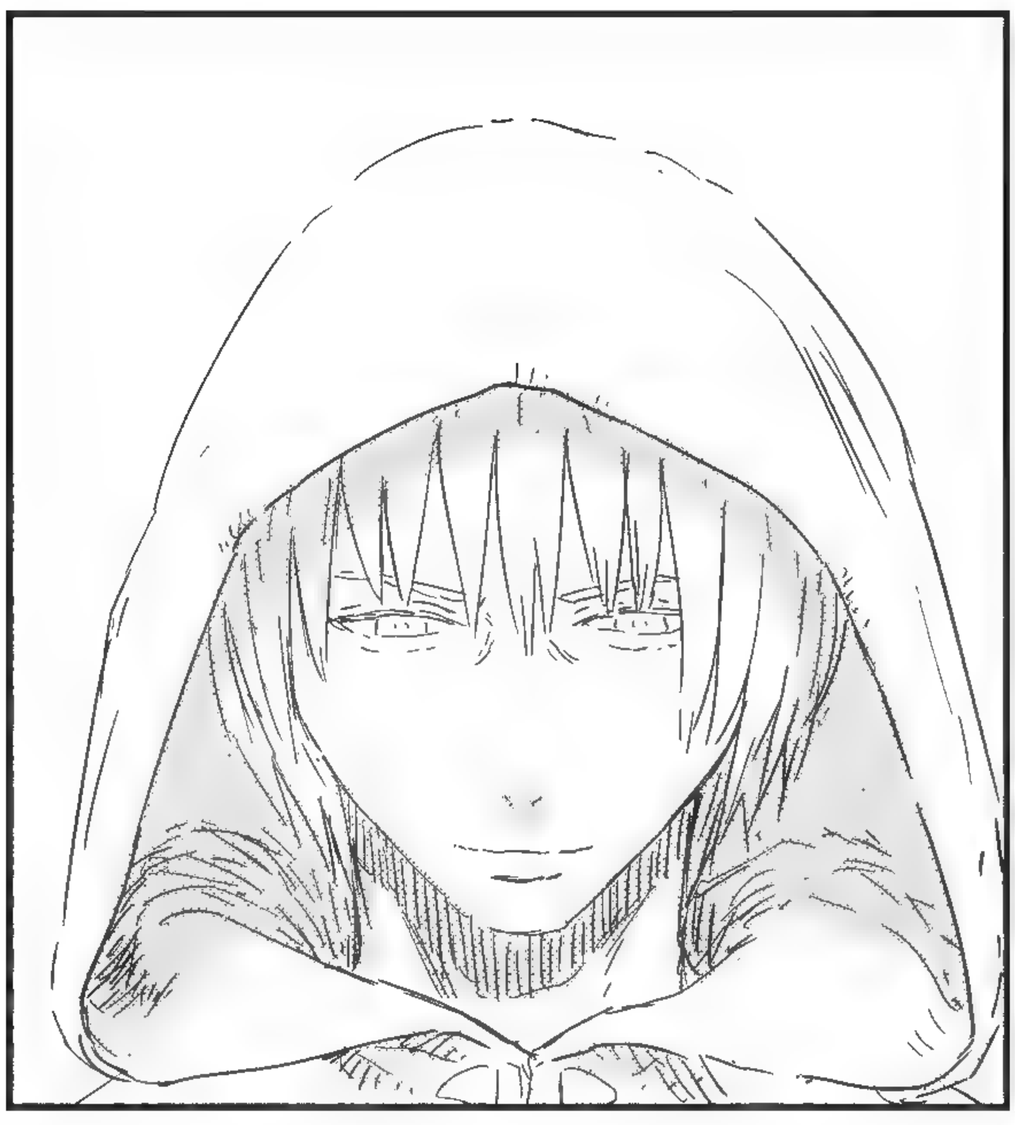
AND BESIDES ...

WHAT ARE THEY DOING?!

COULD IT BE... MY BROTHER ?!

THE TRUE CORE CHURCH...







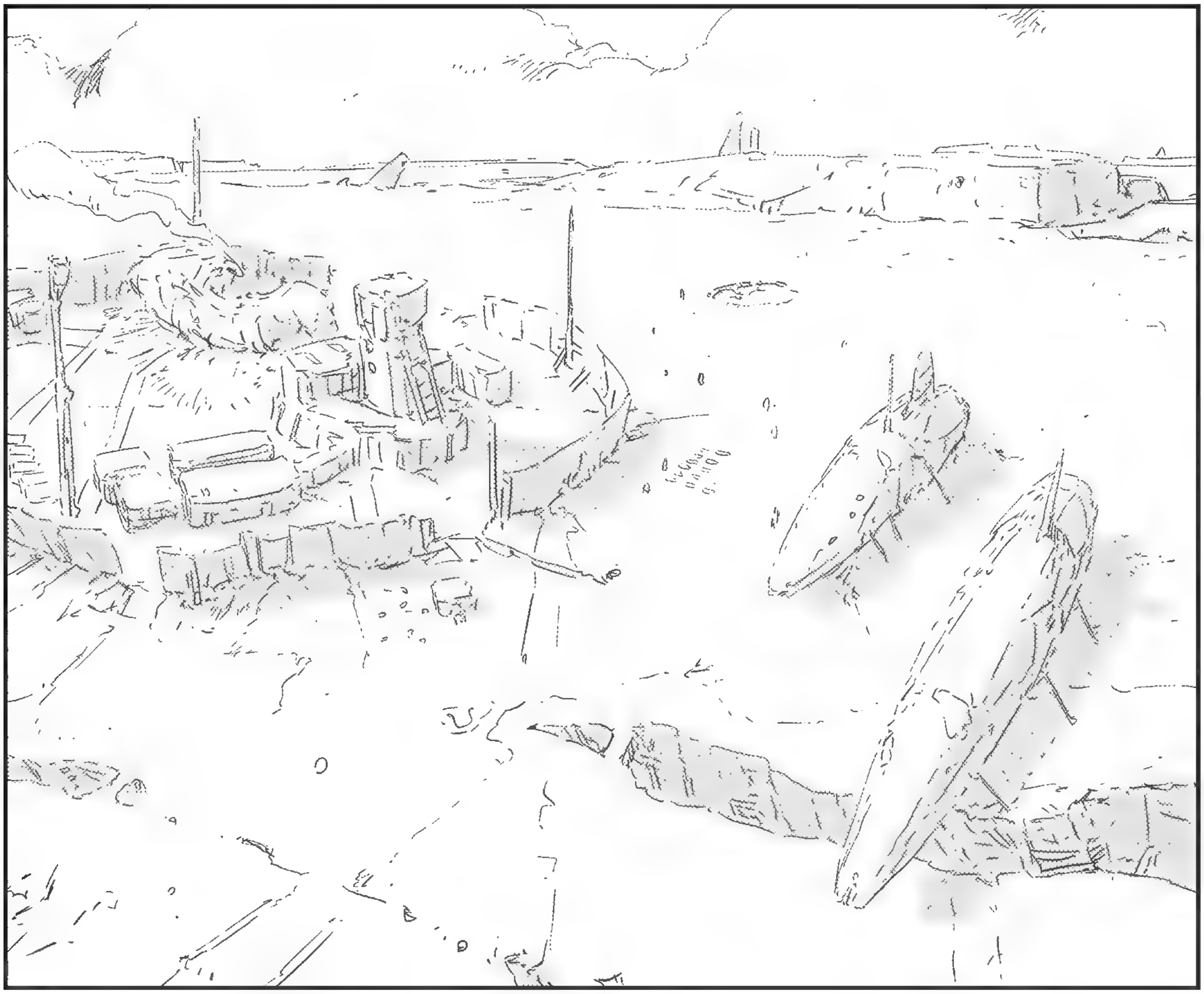
CHAPTER 27 END

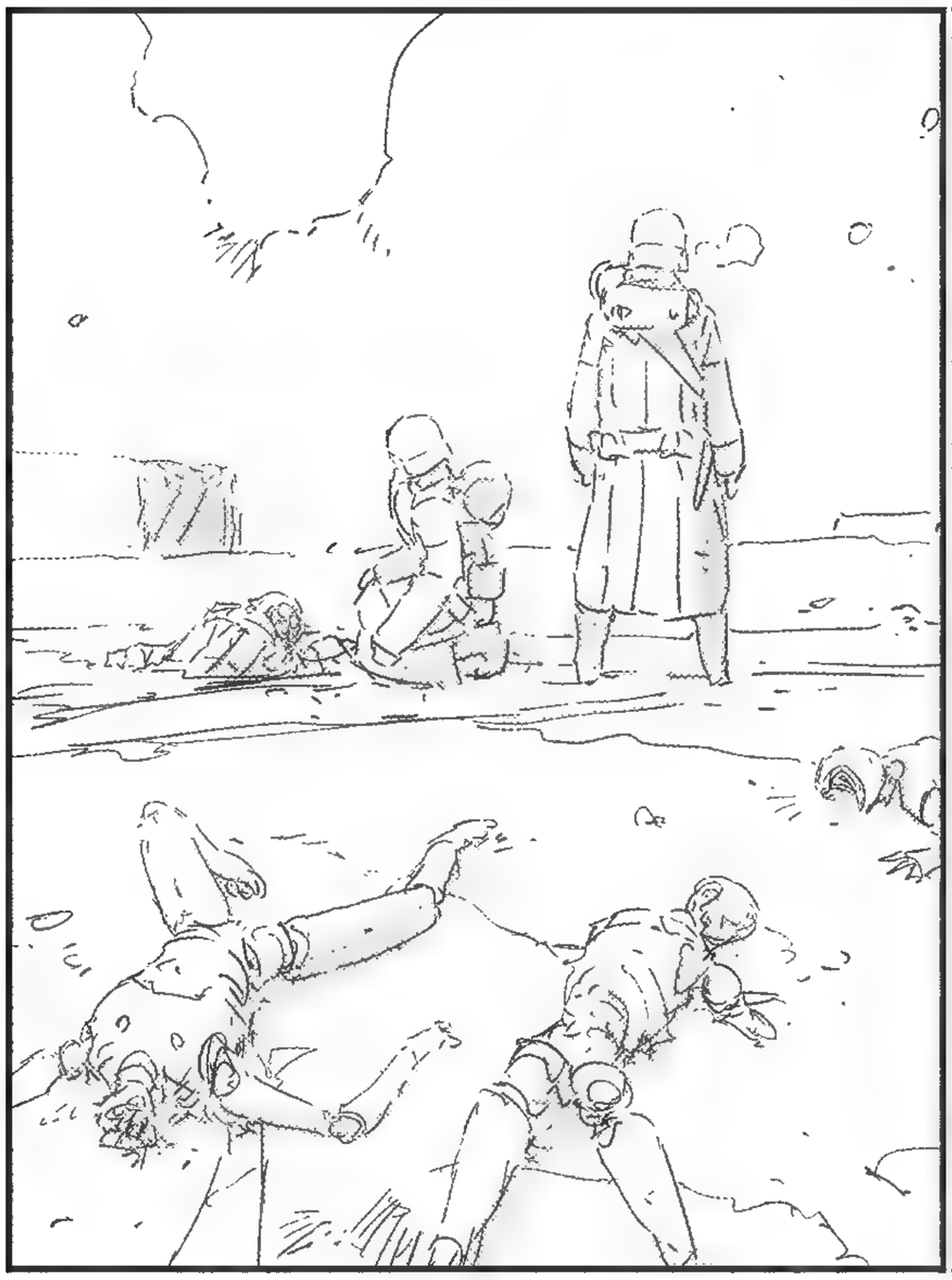
APOSIMZ



CHAPTER 28









BE CAREFUL OF THE FRAMES WEARING HOODS.

THEY HAVE POWERS.

A BUNCH OF THEM RAN AT US... IT WAS A HORRIFIC SIGHT.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU DON'T NEED TO SPEAK.

W-WE WERE ATTACKED BY FRAME DISEASE SUFFERERS.

THEY EVEN WENT AND KILLED THE PRISONERS.

JUST WHAT IS IT THEY'RE AFTER?

TRUE CORE CHURCH, YOU SAY...?

REFERRED TO THEMSELVES AS "THE RE-GENERATED OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH."

THE ONE WHO SEEMED TO BE THE LEADER OF THE FRAMES

BRIGA-DIER GENERAL JATE.

I'M A HUNDRED YEARS OLD, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE SEEN THE LIKE.

I DON'T KNOW EITHER.

MY NAME IS ARU! I AM HONORED TO MEET YOU!

I HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE RELIC SEARCH BRIGADE!

HE REALLY IS DEAD...

AND THIS SINGLE SWORD DIDN'T CHANGE THE OUTCOME.

WHEN HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR GAVE EMERGENCY ORDERS FOR NEWCOMERS TO BE DEPLOYED TO THE FRONT LINES, I HAD A BAD FEELING ABOUT IT...

SNIK

NO PLACENTA ...

THAT'S THE TRUE CORE CHURCH'S OBJECTIVE.

HUH?

IT'S PLA-CENTA.

ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ

RRRRMMMMBBB

!!

THE THING I'M LOOKING FOR IS AMBS.

SO WHAT? YOU DON'T NEED TO REPORT EVERY LITTLE THING TO ME.

LIEUTENANT BOW! THERE ARE PEOPLE DOWN THERE!

IT'S FINE. JUST DO IT.

DIRTY BASTARDS ON MY SHIP.

I DON'T WANT THOSE

MAKE IT LIKE THEY NEVER EXISTED.

USE THE LENS CANNON TO FRY THEM.

KLANK

AUGH!

NATIVES DISCOV-ERED ARE TO BE TAKEN PRISONER!

BUT REGU-LATIONS STATE THAT ANY AND ALL

KWABOOM

ビィィィン

VEEEEEN

GZZAT

AH HA HA HA HA HA!

CLAP

CLAP

EEEE



IT COULD BE THEY DIDN'T ARMOR UP, AND ARE HIDING IN THE WRECKAGE

I'M UNABLE TO DETECT ANY HAIGHS PARTICLES.

AND PROBING OUR SITUATION.

WHY ISN'T THE REINCARNATED THAT WAS ON BOARD COMING OUT?

BUT THIS IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO GET THOSE AMBS.

KEISHA, A REBEL CONSPIRATOR.

SHE'S TAKEN DOWN A NUMBER OF REINCARNATEDS

SO HER PLACENTA VOLUME MUST BE BUILT UP PLENTY.

I SEE. SO SHE USED ELECTRICITY TO TAKE DOWN THE SHIP, EH?

HER !!

UNDER-STOOD. BE CAREFUL.

I'LL APPROACH SLOWLY. IF YOU DETECT ANYTHING, LET ME KNOW.

HOW ODD... IF THEY'RE NEAR THE SHIP,

I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DETECT THEM AGES AGO.

HA HA! A NEW PIECE OF EQUIPMENT FROM REBEDOA— A HAIGHS DETECTION JAMMING DEVICE!

I'VE GOT HER FROM BEHIND!!

!

SHW

KOOM

KDOOM

KDOOM

DOOM

KDOOM

CHSZZK

GOOD. HER ARMOR'S BROKEN.

ZZAT

WHRSH

ZWAAM

NO MATTER HOW MUCH PLACENTA SHE HAS,

IF I HIT HER EXPOSED AREA, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND IT!

THIS IS AN ANTI-PLACENTA AGENT!

FOOM

I'VE TAKEN COUNTER-MEASURES FOR ELEC-TRICITY!

ONCE SHE'S IMMOBI-LIZED,

I'LL MAKE HER SPIT OUT THE LOCATION OF THE AMBS!

SPLOTCH

!

THWAP

TWITCH

TWITCH

SKRRSH

GZZT

ズズ…
HHZZH

KEISHA.

PLACENTA SECURED! WE'LL BE ABLE TO SPEED UP ETHEROW'S RECOVERY WITH THIS.

ZLRP
ズ…
ル

SO YOU'RE KEISHA.

IT'S THEM!

NO. SISTER JINATA HAS BEEN MADE TO RESEMBLE HER.

SHE RESEMBLES SISTER JINATA.

THAT IS KEISHA.

HOW COME YOU KNOW MY NAME...?

YOU PEOPLE

ARE PRETTY EVIL FRAMES, TOO.

...WHY DID YOU KILL HUMANS?

IS TO HUNT THE EVIL FRAMES OF REBEDOA.

WE ARE OF THE TRUE CORE CHURCH, AND OUR WORK

LET US SPEAK TO HIM!

WE CAN STILL WORK TOGETHER!

SO MY BROTHER IS INVOLVED IN THIS!

KAJIWAN! I KNEW IT...

WHERE IS HE?

WE WON'T KILL YOU THIS TIME.

TO OVERLOOK YOU AND TITANIA.

KING KAJIWAN HAS TOLD US

BUT DON'T EVER GET IN OUR WAY AGAIN.

SILENCE
!

KEISHA.
KAJIWAN IS
BEYOND—

VVVW

CHOOM

PWKOOM

WE ARE DEEPLY SORRY.

BRING BACK ANY PLACENTA THIS TIME?

DID NONE OF THE TEAMS

AND TOOK HIS PLACENTA. SO...

SHE HUNTED THE EVIL FRAME BEFORE US

KEISHA WAS THERE!

THANK YOU. YOU HAVE DONE WELL.

HAVE BROUGHT FRAME DISEASE SUFFERERS.

BUT ALL THE TEAMS OTHER THAN JINATA'S

YES!

KEISHA WAS THERE?

BECAUSE WE'D KILLED HUMANS...

SHE SAID THAT WE WERE EVIL FRAMES...

SAY ANYTHING ?

DID SHE

WE TOOK OFF THEIR MASKS...

AND HELPED TO LIBERATE THEIR SOULS.

WE FOLLOWED THE RULES...

IN OUR SEARCH THIS TIME, WE ENCOUNTERED FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.

KING KAJIWAN.

I CAN'T STAND IT ANYMORE ...

I CAN'T DO THIS.

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.

I DON'T THINK THAT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO

BUT...

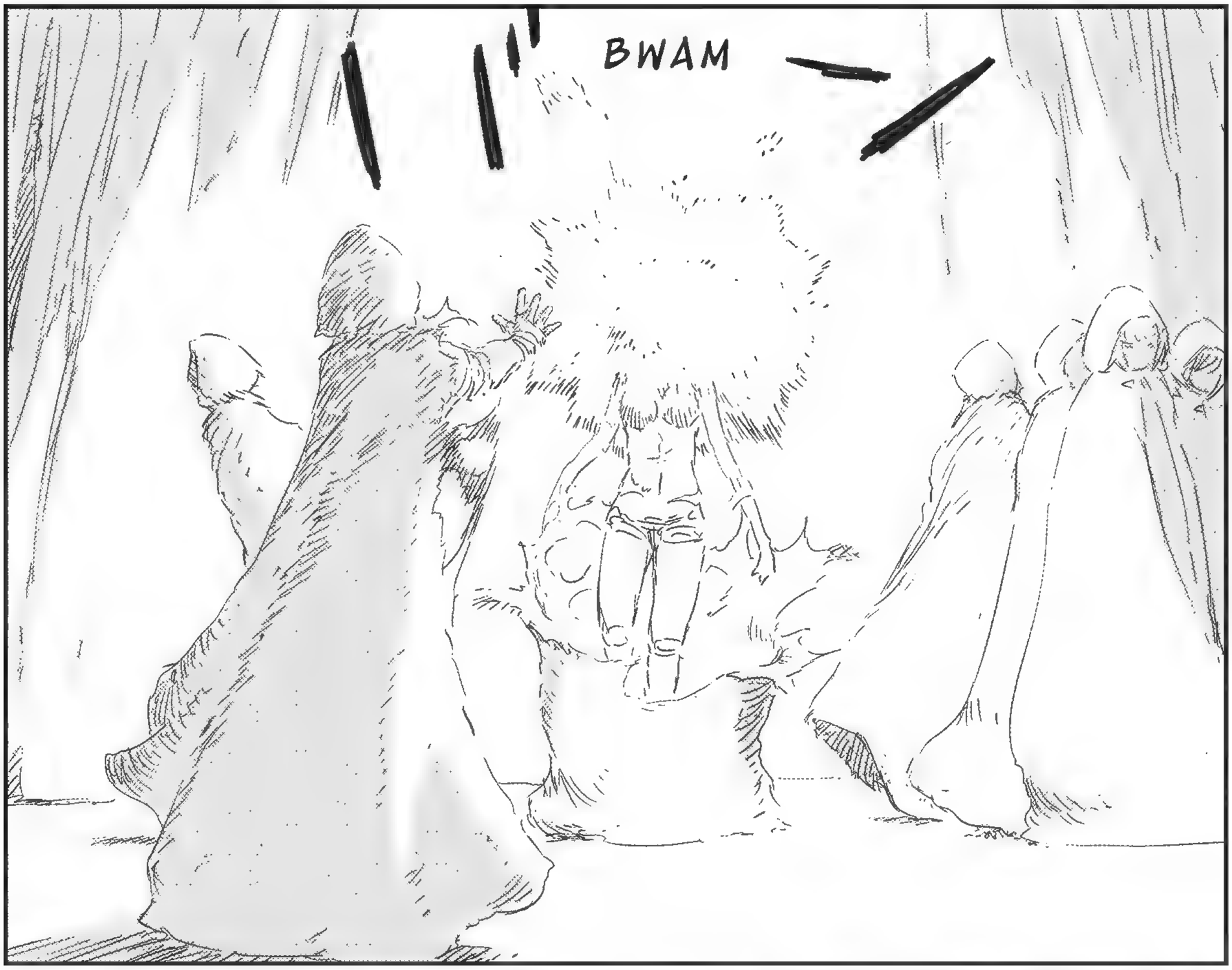
WHORSH

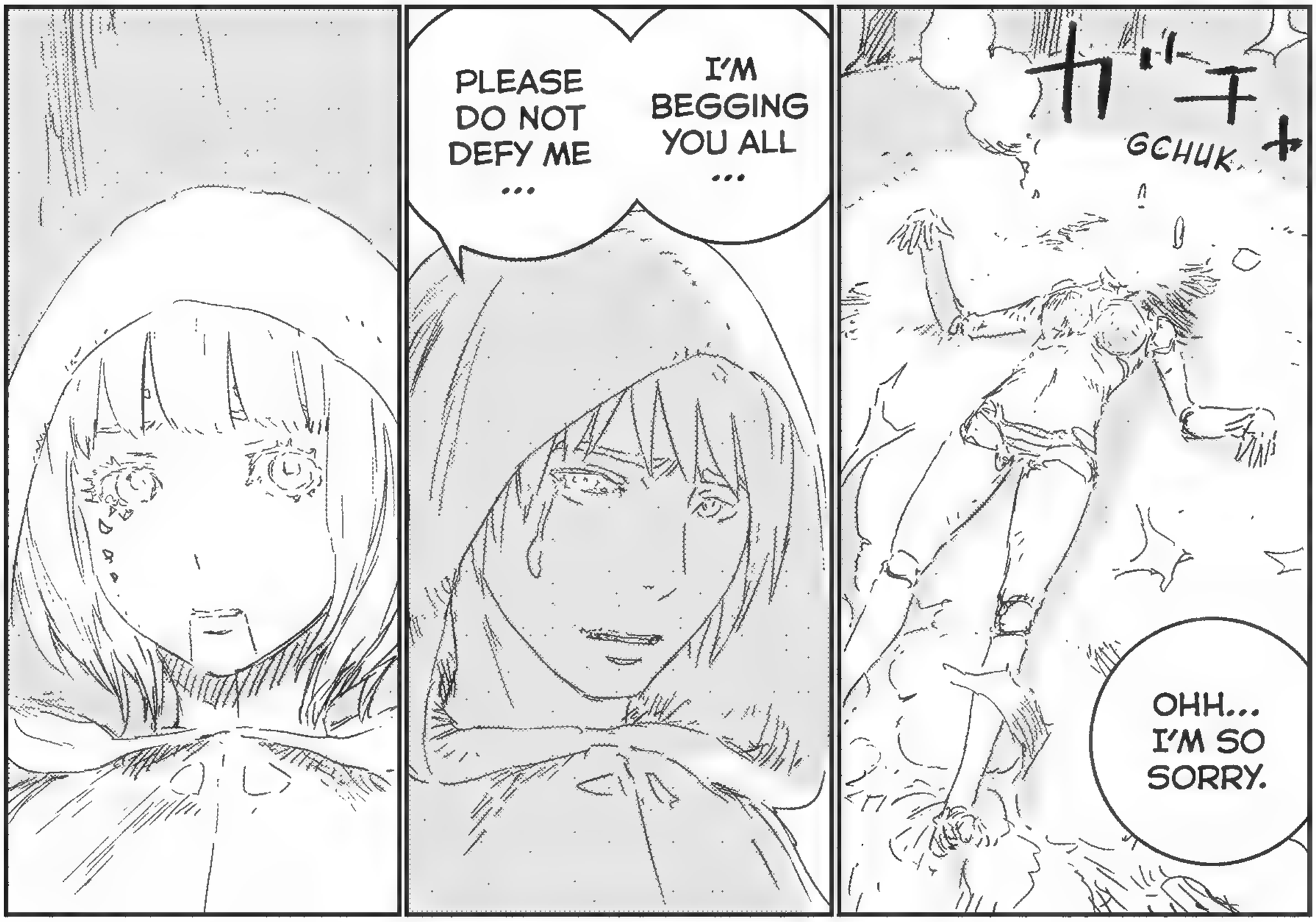
THIS IS OUR MISSION.

NO MATTER HOW TRYING IT MAY BE,

WHY DO YOU STILL SAY THINGS LIKE THAT?!

DAMN IT...





CHAPTER 28 END

APOSIMZ



CHAPTER 29



ズズ
ZLRSH

HSSHH

DRRP

HSSHH

GLUBLUBLUB

77

ETHEROW! CAN YOU HEAR ME?

HE'S GOT A LITTLE BIT OF A BODY!

OKAY, ETHEROW?

I'LL GO HUNT MORE REINCAR-NATEDS.

BUT HE HEALED FASTER THAN

WHEN WE ONLY USED URINE!

YOU REALLY CAN'T EXPECT HIS CONSCIOUSNESS TO COME BACK THAT QUICKLY.

WE NEED TO BE ALMOST EXCESSIVELY PRUDENT IN OUR ACTIONS.

IS OUR ENEMIES FINDING THIS HIDEOUT AND STEALING THE AMBS.

THE THING WE NEED TO BE MOST WARY OF

KEISHA, DON'T RUSH THINGS.

NICHIKO SUOU CAN'T ENTER THE CORE.

WITHOUT THE AMBS

BUT WE NEED ETHEROW TO TAKE DOWN REBEDOA.

I KNOW THAT.

THERE'S NO HURRY TO GET HIS EBTG WORKING.

ETHEROW WILL EVENTUALLY RECOVER.

WHILE I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY YEARS OR DECADES IT MAY TAKE,

IF WE STAY HERE QUIETLY IN HIDING,

I WANT TO SEE ETHEROW AGAIN.

I'M NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT HIS EBTG.

WORKING ...?

AS A CITIZEN OF IRF NIKK, YOU UNDER-STAND, DON'T YOU?

AN INCURSION INTO THE CORE BY NICHIKO SUOU CANNOT BE PERMITTED.

HOWEVER UNLIKELY IT MAY BE,

KEISHA ...

I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

THOSE WHO ENTER THE CORE

GAIN THE POWER TO RULE THE WORLD.

SO MANY HAVE GATHERED.

WE NEED MORE SOLDIERS, AND I MYSELF MUST BE STRENGTHENED WITH PLACENTA.

BUT IT'S STILL NOT ENOUGH.

TOWARDS A CERTAIN PLACE...

AFTER UME'S IMPACT, I GAINED A REPLICATION OF TITANIA

AND HEADED TO THE DEEPEST LAYER OF THE UNDER-GROUND RUINS.

KBLUP

GLUP

GLUP

GLUP

GLUP

ズ ZBWOOSH ン

BWSSH

JUST WHAT YOU'D EXPECT OF AN AUTOMATON OF THE DEEPEST UNDERGROUND LEVEL.

WHAT A HANDFUL.

THIS MEGA-STRUCTURE IS THE BOUNDARY OF THE CORE!

THIS IS THE BOTTOM OF THE RUINS LAYER.

IS THE CORE WORLD!

UNDER THIS

NOW, THEN, EMISSARY OF THE GOD OF THE CORE...

OPEN UP AN ENTRANCE FOR ME.

WELL, I'M NOT SURPRISED. BUT I HAD TO GIVE IT A TRY.

...

I'LL HAVE TO FIND KEISHA AND STEAL THE AMBS AFTER ALL.

I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE THAT EASY TO GET INTO.

HSSHH

A FRAME DISEASE SUFFERER CAME OUT OF THE STOMACH OF THE AUTOMATON.

KSPUTCH

IS IT DRAWN TO THE EMISSARY OF THE GOD OF THE CORE?

KCHIT

CHSS

KRIK

KRIK

THWSSHH

I WILL LEAD AN ARMY OF FRAMES AND OVERTHROW THE EMPIRE.

THIS IS THE ANSWER!

IF I CONQUER THE SURFACE, THEN THERE IS NO DOUBT I WILL BE INVITED TO THE CORE!

THE FRAME DISEASE SUFFERER SPOKE!!

DOES HE HAVE HIS INTELLIGENCE BACK?!

WHERE AM I ...?

WHAT THE ...?

WAS HE LIKE THIS IN THE OLD DAYS, TOO?

HIS MAJESTY IS ALWAYS IN SUCH A HURRY.

TRANS-PORTATION OVER LAND, YOU SAY...?

ゴ'' ゴ'' ゴ'' ゴ''

RRMMBB

ARE THEY CARRYING SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE TRANSPORTED BY AIR?

GOOD OR BAD.

WHATEVER WE DO, EVERYTHING ONLY GOES AS HIS MAJESTY FORESEES,

SINCE YOU WERE FLESH AND BLOOD, FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS, RIGHT?

TOSU, YOU'VE BEEN IN SERVICE TO HIS MAJESTY

DO YOU KNOW WHAT HIS MAJESTY'S POWERS ARE?

BY ANY CHANCE ...

AT THIS RATE, I'M GOING TO END UP COMPLETELY APATHETIC LIKE YOU.

HMPH.

WE'RE GOING TO DESCEND.

THE TRANSPORT VEHICLE IS IN SIGHT.

BRIGADIER GENERAL JATE.

RRMMBBB

IT'S GARGAN-TUAN...

!!

THOO

OOMM

THM
THM
THM
THM
THM
THM
VWWWMM
I WANT TO SEE INSIDE. TAKE ME DOWN, TOSU.
WHUP
GKUNG

OVER HERE!

KRAK

11°

11°

≠ PKRAK

≠ KRAK

I'VE BROUGHT THEM.

ORDNANCE BUREAU?

UHH... A BIGWIG FROM THE ORDNANCE BUREAU IS HERE, SO...

WHAT'S YOUR CARGO?

AH HEE HEE HEE!

IT'S JATE, THE REAL DEAL!

OOH!

AH HEE HEE!

BY THE WAY, I'M THE SAME RANK AS YOU.

OH! I'M TASHITSUMA OF THE ORDNANCE BUREAU. AH HEE HEE HEE HEE HEE!

I'M A HUGE FAN.

I GUESS I'M A LITTLE BIT TALLER THAN YOU.

ACK! GOT A NOSE HAIR SNAGGED ON MY MASK AGAIN.

AH HEE HEE!

SOMETHING TO SEARCH FOR AMBS.

YIKES!

HURRY UP AND TELL ME WHAT YOU'RE CARRYING.

WHAT DO I CARE?

BUT IT CAN BE USED AS SUCH. AH HEE HEE!

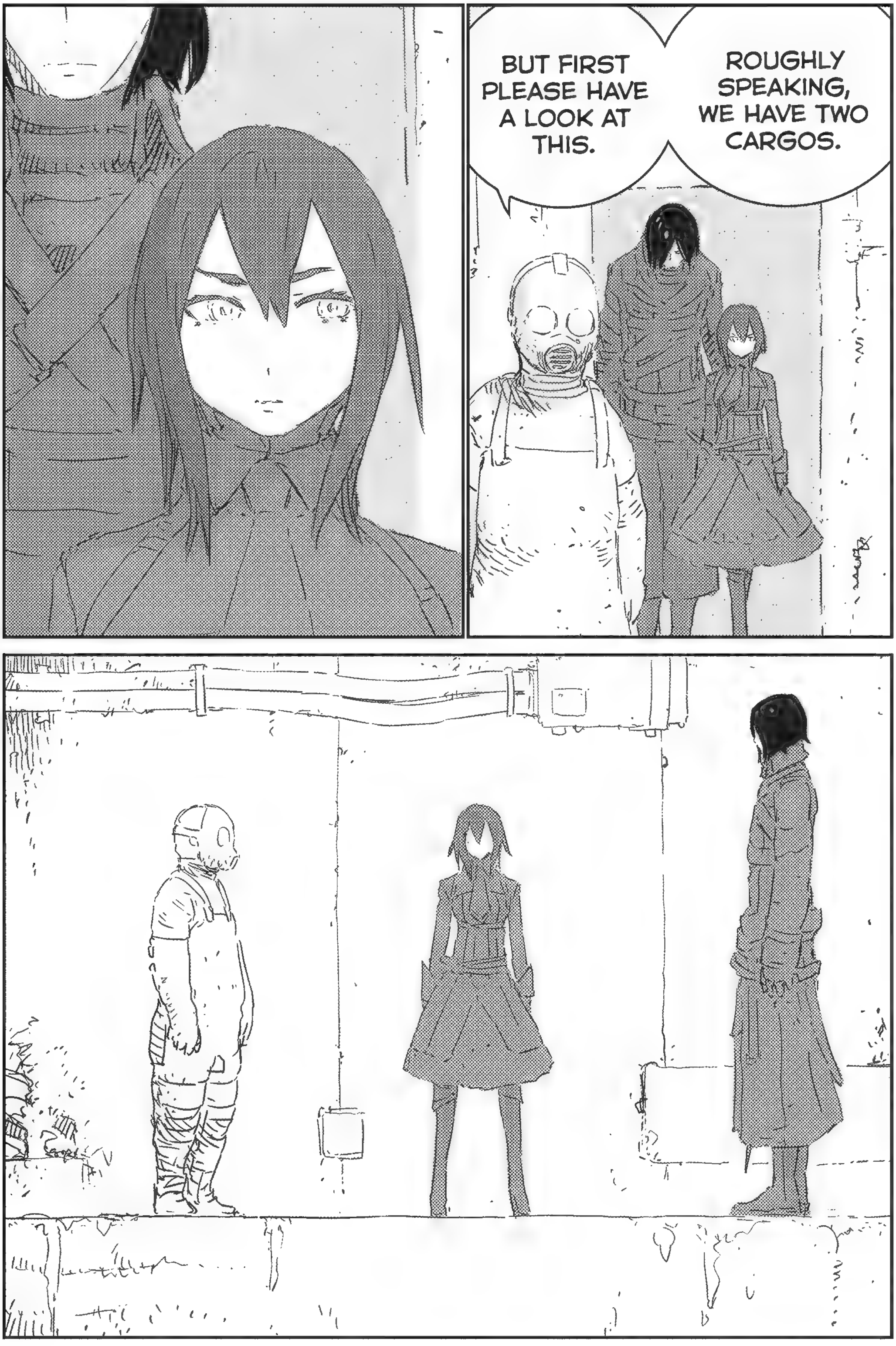
WAS NOT MEANT TO BE A SEARCH DEVICE,

WHAT I HAD ORIGINALLY BUILT

AH HEE HEE!

YES, WE PROBABLY CAN.

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO FIND THE AMBS?


BUT FIRST PLEASE HAVE A LOOK AT THIS.
ROUGHLY SPEAKING, WE HAVE TWO CARGOS.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

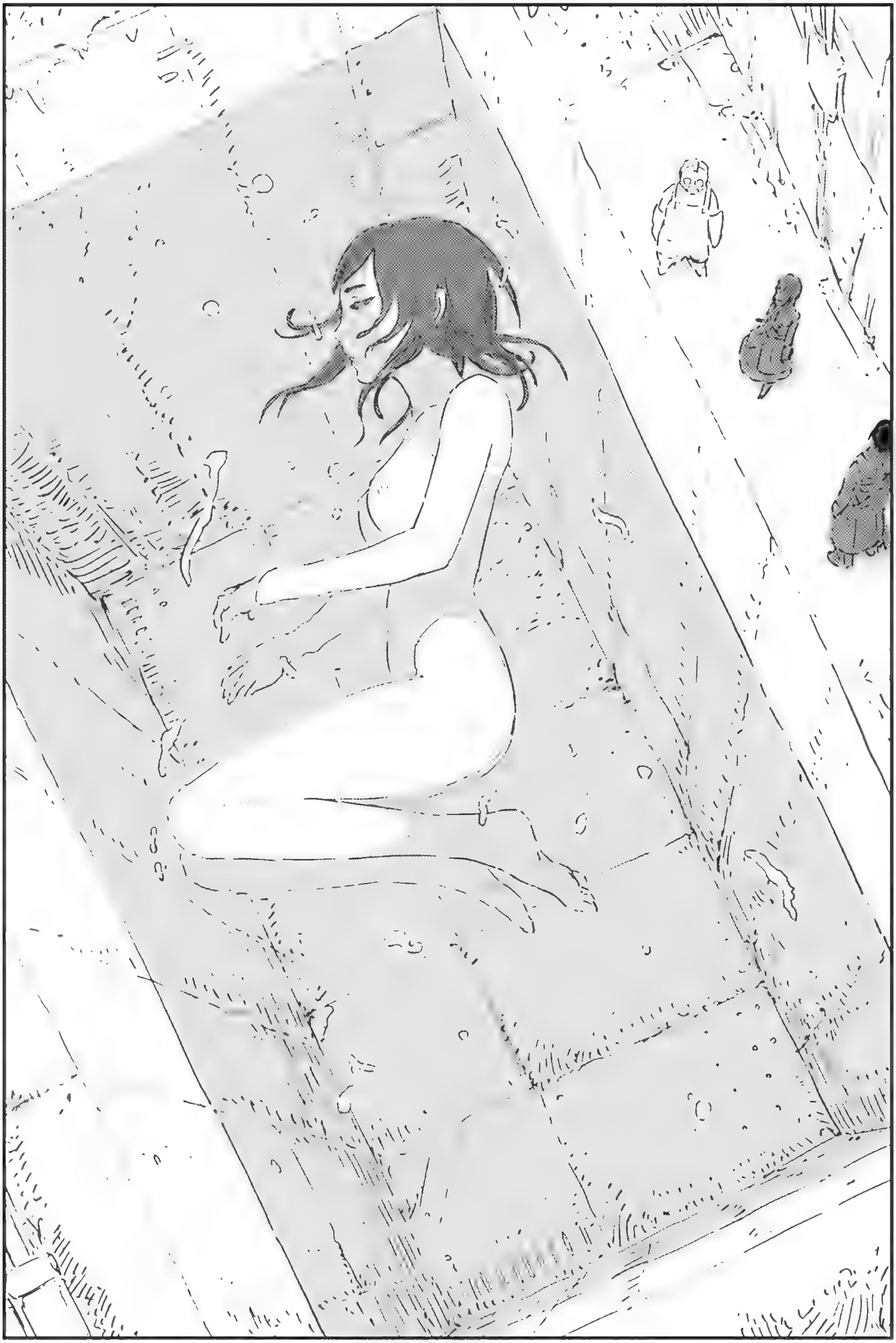
WHAT HAVE YOU PEOPLE COME HERE TO DO?

WHAT IS THIS?

AH HEE HEE!

THAT GIRL CAN FIND AMBS.

YOU STILL DON'T KNOW?



OH! HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR GAVE PERMISSION IMMEDIATELY.

WE SIMPLY REALIZED... WOULDN'T THE BEST THING BE A MORE POTENT VERSION OF YOUR POWER? *GUH HEE HEE!*

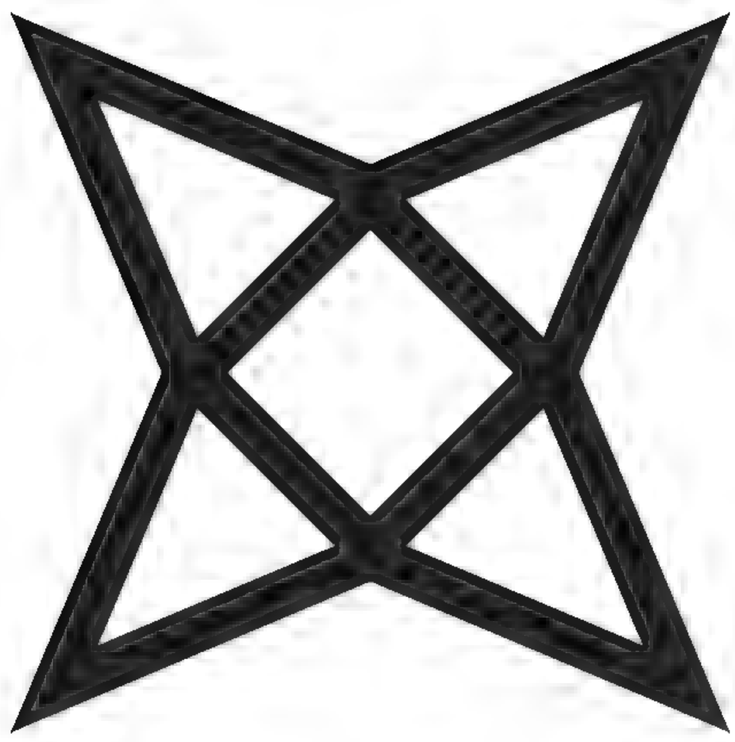
GLUP

SO YOU'VE FINALLY NOTICED?

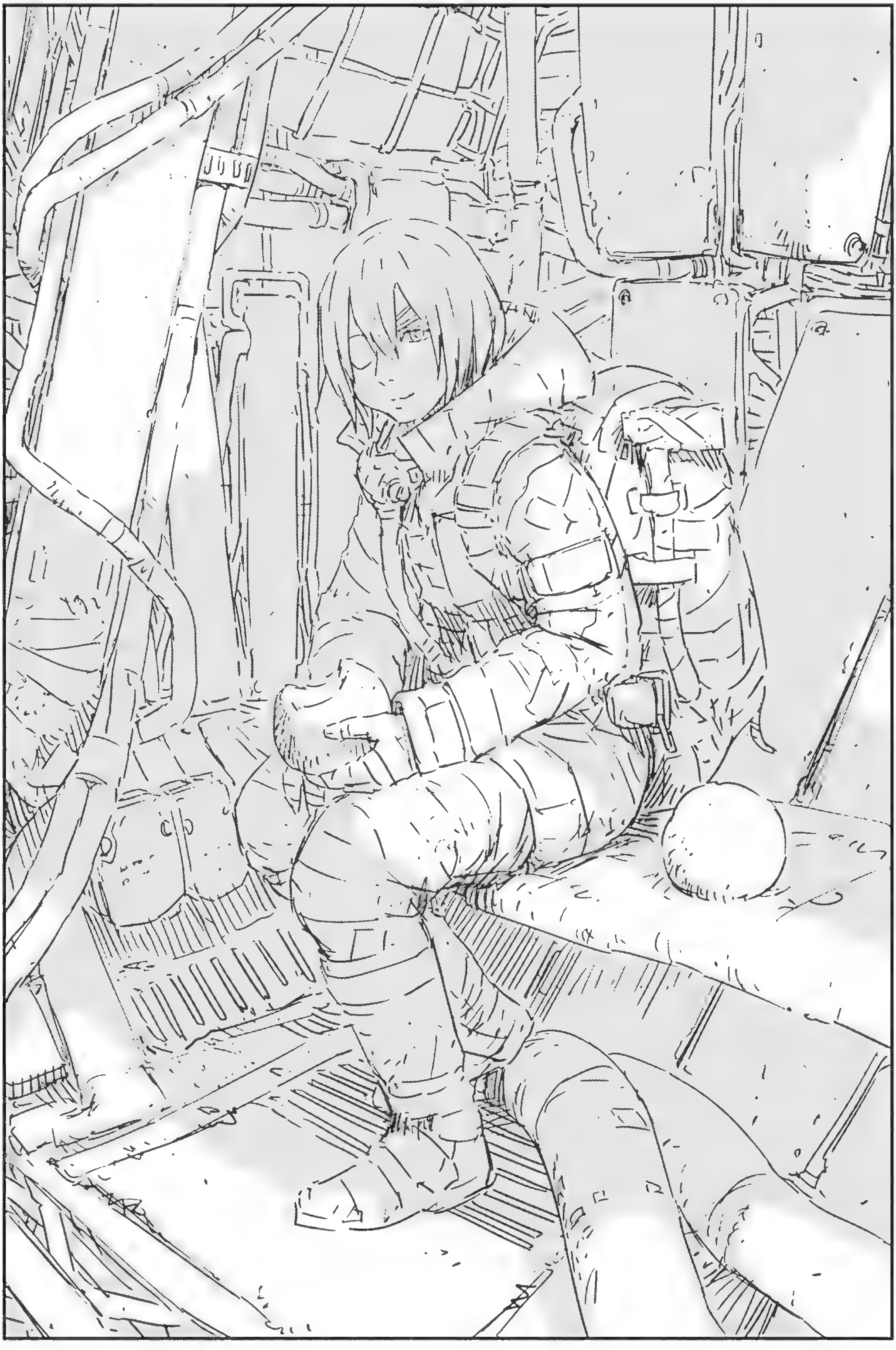


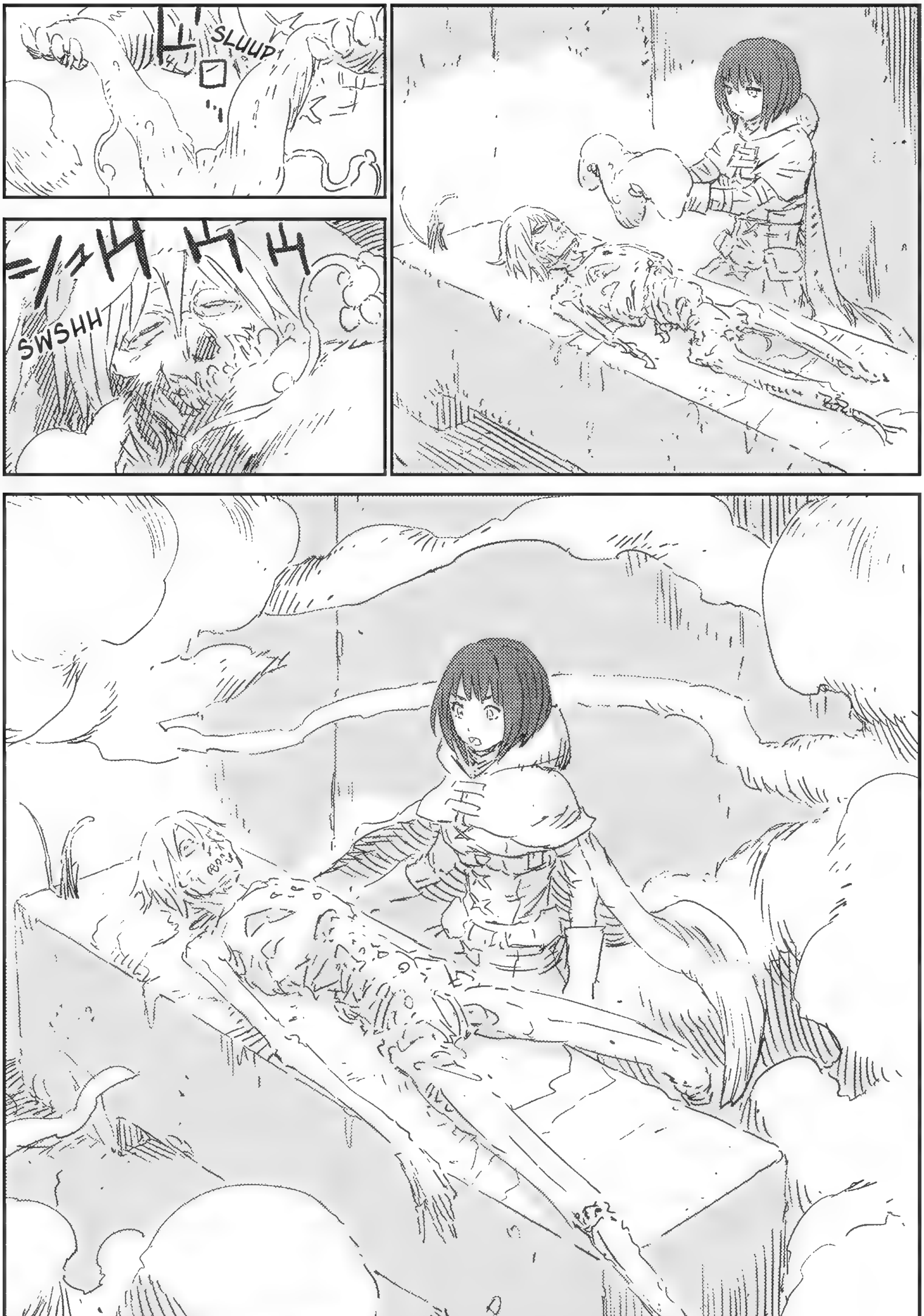
CHAPTER 29 END

APOSIMZ



CHAPTER 30




SLUUP
SWSHH

HE MOVED!

TWITCH

JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE, HUH, TITANIA!

WE WILL SEE

ETHEROW SOON!

KEISHA, WAIT! CALM DOWN!

ALL OF YOU...

I'M SORRY...

BUT I PROMISE YOUR DEATHS WERE NOT IN VAIN.

THAT CAN TAKE DOWN SHIPS, BUT TO THINK SHE WAS ABLE TO PUNCH A HOLE WITH SUCH ACCURACY...

I THOUGHT WE WERE PREPARED TO DEAL WITH AN ELECTRICITY USER

AND THERE WAS DEFINITELY A REASON FOR THAT.

WE CAME HERE UNDER ORDERS FROM HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR

BZ

ATCH

LONG LIVE REBEDOA!

DRUPP

SPLATCH

ZZZLLLLK

ZLRK

ズ…
ZLCH?

THAT HIDEAWAY HASN'T BEEN DISCOVERED. HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

LET'S GET BACK QUICK.

CHASING AFTER THAT STRAY REINCAR-NATED.

WE ENDED UP QUITE FAR AWAY FROM ETHEROW

MAYBE WE SHOULD CATCH A FACE-CHOMPER AND *THEN* GO BACK.

THIS PLACENTA COULD RESTORE ETHEROW'S CONSCIOUS-NESS!

YOU KNOW …

ALL RIGHT. DISASSEMBLE THE BOXES.

WE'VE COUPLED EACH SECTION.

ゴゥゥゥゥ

GWRRRN

AN ARTIFICIAL CODE?!

GRRMM

THE RESULT OF RESEARCH BEGUN AFTER I MADE A DIRECT APPEAL TO HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR.

THE EMPIRE'S MOST ADVANCED TECHNOL-OGY.

ALTHOUGH THERE'S STILL THE PROBLEM OF MINIATURIZATION.

WE'VE ARTIFICIALLY RECREATED A REAL CODE.

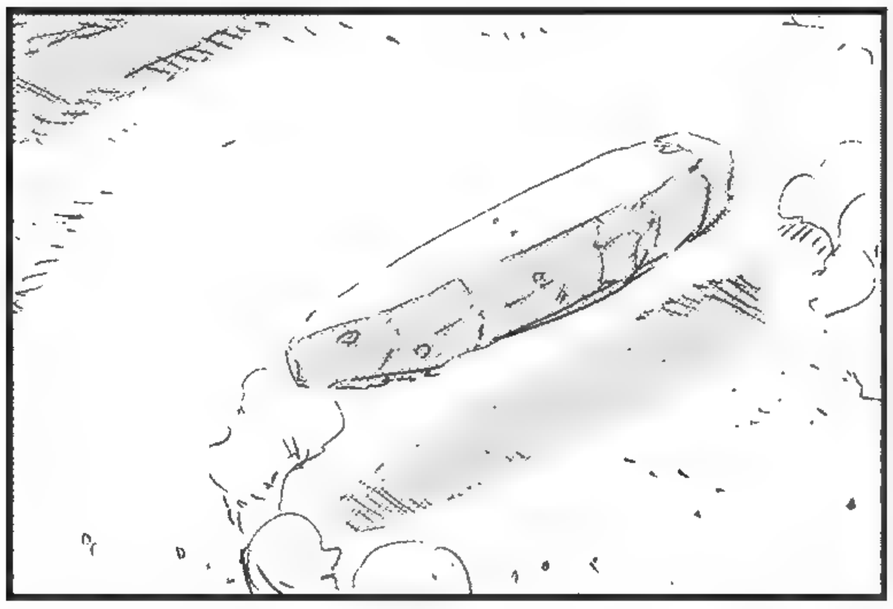
AH HEE HEE!

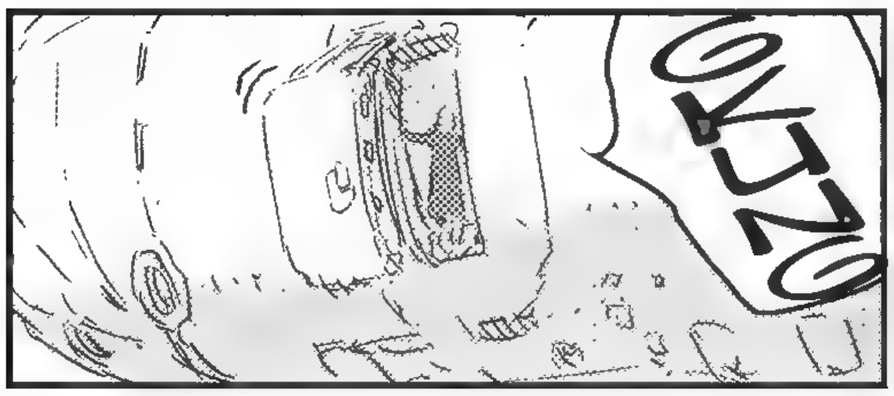
AHEE!

IS BECAUSE THE PLACENTA IS FOLDED SO MINUTELY AND HOUSED WITHIN IT.

THE REASON THAT A REAL CODE IS SO SMALL

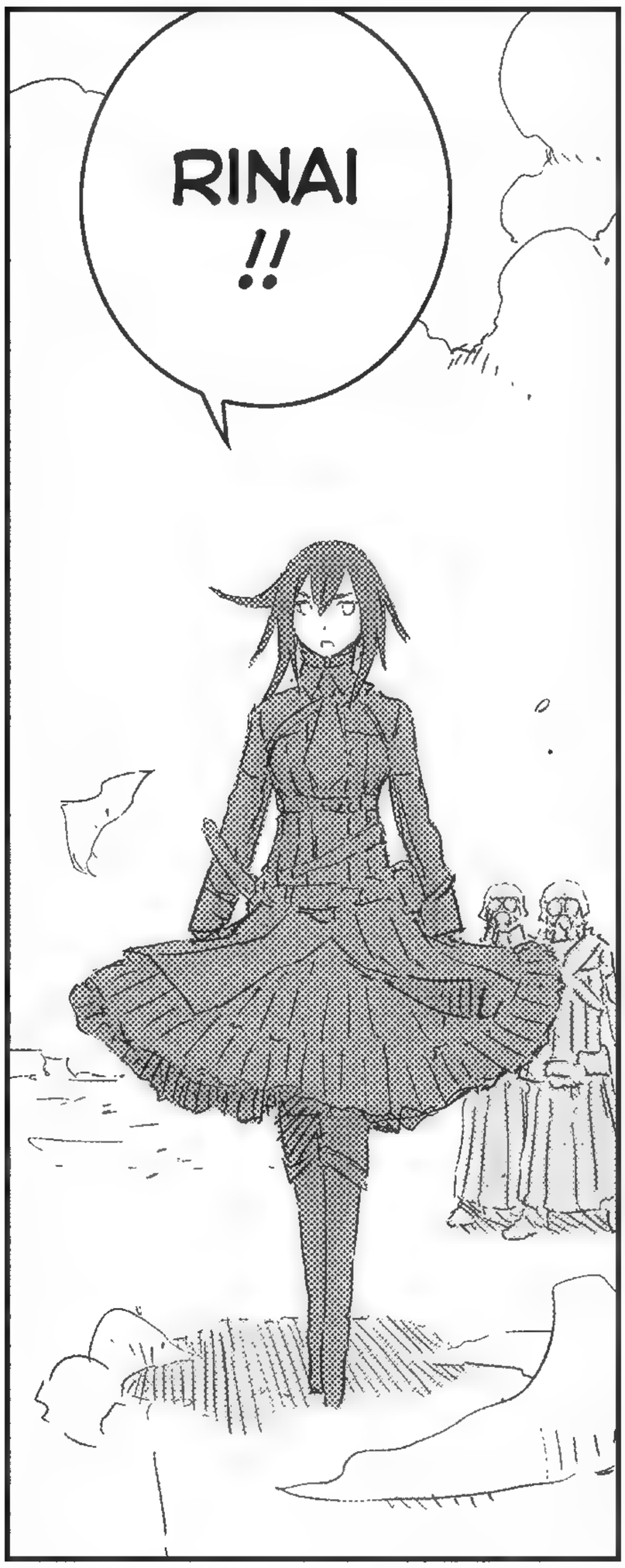
WE'RE NOT ABLE TO REPRODUCE ALL *THAT* YET! *AH HEE HEE!*




OKAO


THAT SHIP ...


!


RINAI !!



I'VE BEEN PRESSED INTO SERVICE AGAIN.

HELLO, JATE.

HE'S HERE AT MY REQUEST.

HIS ABILITY IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

WELL, IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT.

AH HEE HEE HEE HEE!

RINAI HAS A CONDITION. IF HE USES HIS POWER, DAMAGE WILL BUILD UP IN HIS ORIGINAL BODY.

HE SHOULD BE RECUPERATING NOW AND NOT USING HIS POWER!

BUT THE TRANSFORMATION DIDN'T GO WELL.

I MADE A CLONE OF HIM, TOO,

USING THIS AND THE CLONE OF A REINCARNATED, WE CAN CREATE AN ARTIFICIAL REGULAR FRAME,

BUT THE MORE ADVANCED AND COMPLEX THE POWER, THE HARDER IT IS TO REPRODUCE THE ORIGINAL CODE.

SKRATCH

SKRATCH

SKRATCH

THE PLACENTA OF REGULAR FRAMES EACH HAVE UNIQUE "MARKS" CARVED INTO THEM.

CONVERSION AND TRANSCRIPTION OF THOSE MARKS RESULTS IN AN ARTIFICIAL *CODE*. PUT SIMPLY, WE REPLICATE THE CODE.

THERE ARE LOTS OF OTHER REINCARNATEDS THAT COULD TAKE YOUR PLACE, MISS JATE...

SO YOU'D BEST PRODUCE RESULTS OR YOU'LL LOSE YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE!

AH HEE HEE HEE!

MISS JATE, YOUR CONVERSION RATE IS 84%.

MEANING YOU'RE NOT THAT GREAT A SUPERBEING.

INCIDENTALLY, HIS MAJESTY'S WAS LESS THAN 0.001%.

RINAI'S CONVERSION RATE IS 47%.

GREAK

AH HEE HEE.

THE CODE WON'T OPERATE CORRECTLY UNLESS IT'S UPRIGHT.

CRIK

CRIK

WIND IT UP.

B
A
CRAANK
THE CRANE BROKE!
IT'S COMING DOWN!!
KWOOM

AAAAAA AAAGH!!


RRRRGGG
GA
KOOM
WHOOA!
WHSHH
ZHA
ZWMM

HE SHOULD'VE JUST LET IT FALL.

HMF.

YOUR NEW PARTNER'S NOT BAD, IS HE?

AH HEE HEE!

AHEE!

PREPARA-TIONS FOR THE ARTIFICIAL CODE ARE COMPLETE!

YOU CAN COME ON OUT NOW.

KDUN

OPENING UP THE CLONE HOLD.

RIGHT.

MR. TASHI-TSUMA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

JUST LET ME GET UP!


ドス"
THOOM
THOOM
YOU LOT! GET BACK!

INCREDI-BLE...!

IT'S BRIGADIER GENERAL JATE...

KREAK

KREAK

ZM

NOTH-ING!

ZM

WHAT ?

NOTH-ING AT ALL, MA'AM !!

NHMM

NHMM

PTHOOM

THOOM

ZWUM

ZWMMM

YES, TASHI-TSUMA ...

AJATE.

PROCEED UNTIL YOU'RE INSIDE THE RED MARK-INGS.

WAS IT NECESSARY TO GO TO THE TROUBLE OF TRANSPORTING THAT ARTIFICIAL CODE HERE?

IF SHE'S THAT OBEDIENT, THEY COULD HAVE JUST TAKEN HER AROUND AFTER REINCARNATION.

YES.

BY CONTROLLING HER CONSCIOUSNESS, I IMPRINTED ON HER SO SHE FOLLOWS MY INSTRUCTIONS.

AH HEE HEE HEE HEE!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, MISS JATE?

THERE WAS A MAJOR DISASTER ...

WHEN THEY CLONED ME,

EVERYONE, GET BACK.

NOW JUST STAY PERFECTLY STILL.

AH HEE HEE

ALL RIGHT. WELL DONE.

YOU WON'T BE COLD FOR MUCH LONGER. *AH HEE HEE!*

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

TASHI-TSUMA.

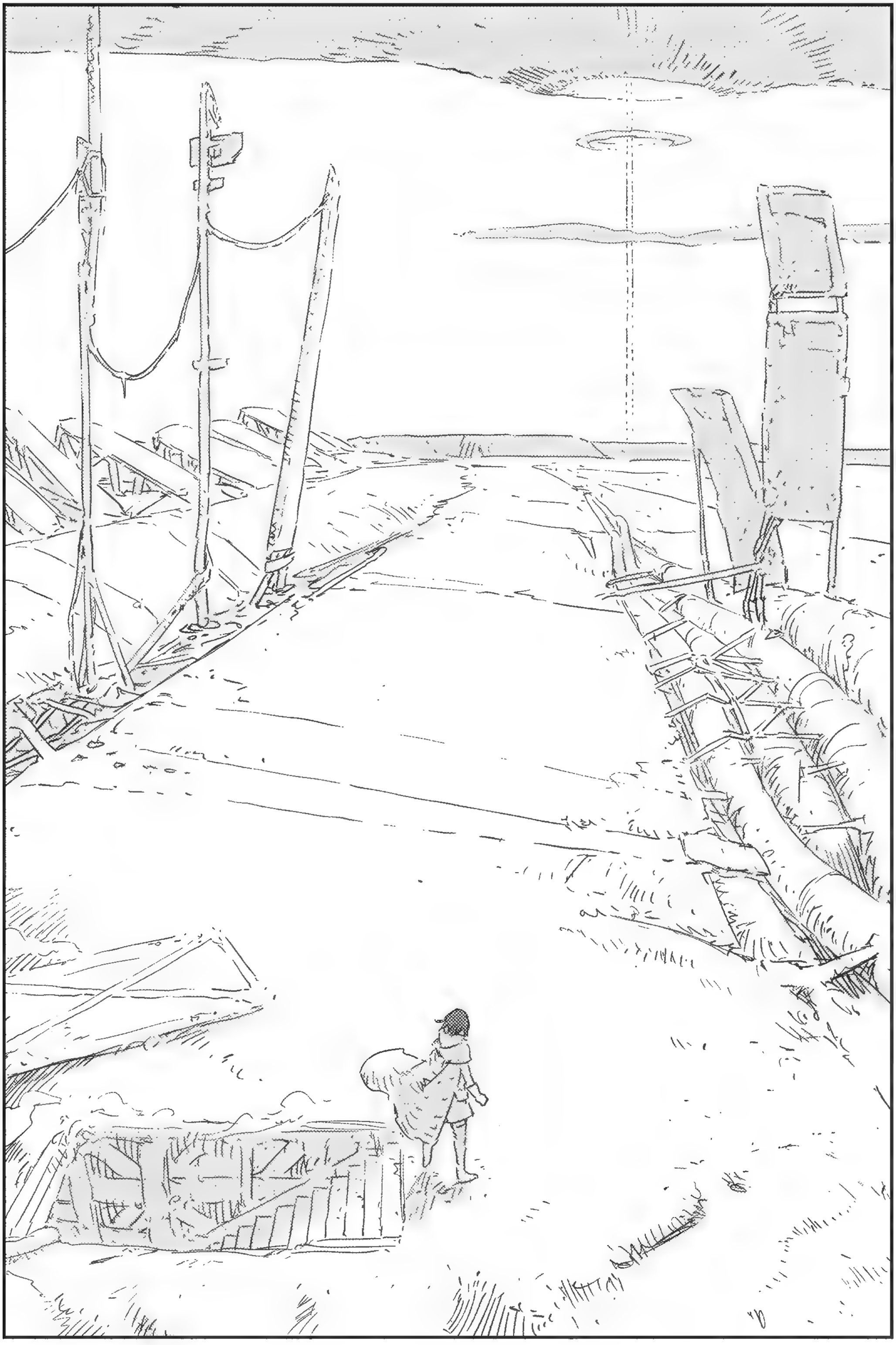
I'M COLD ...!

H'' VW NN ''I

ガゴーン

GKUNG

ACTIVATE THE ARTIFICIAL CODE.



THE LIGHT OF A TRANS-MUTATION !!

THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT LIGHT.

IT'S NOT NEARBY AT ALL.

WE CAN SEE IT SO CLEARLY. IT MUST BE NEARBY.

DDM DDM DDM DDM DDM DDM DDM DDM

KREEEE

KREEE

BWSSHH

DWOOSH

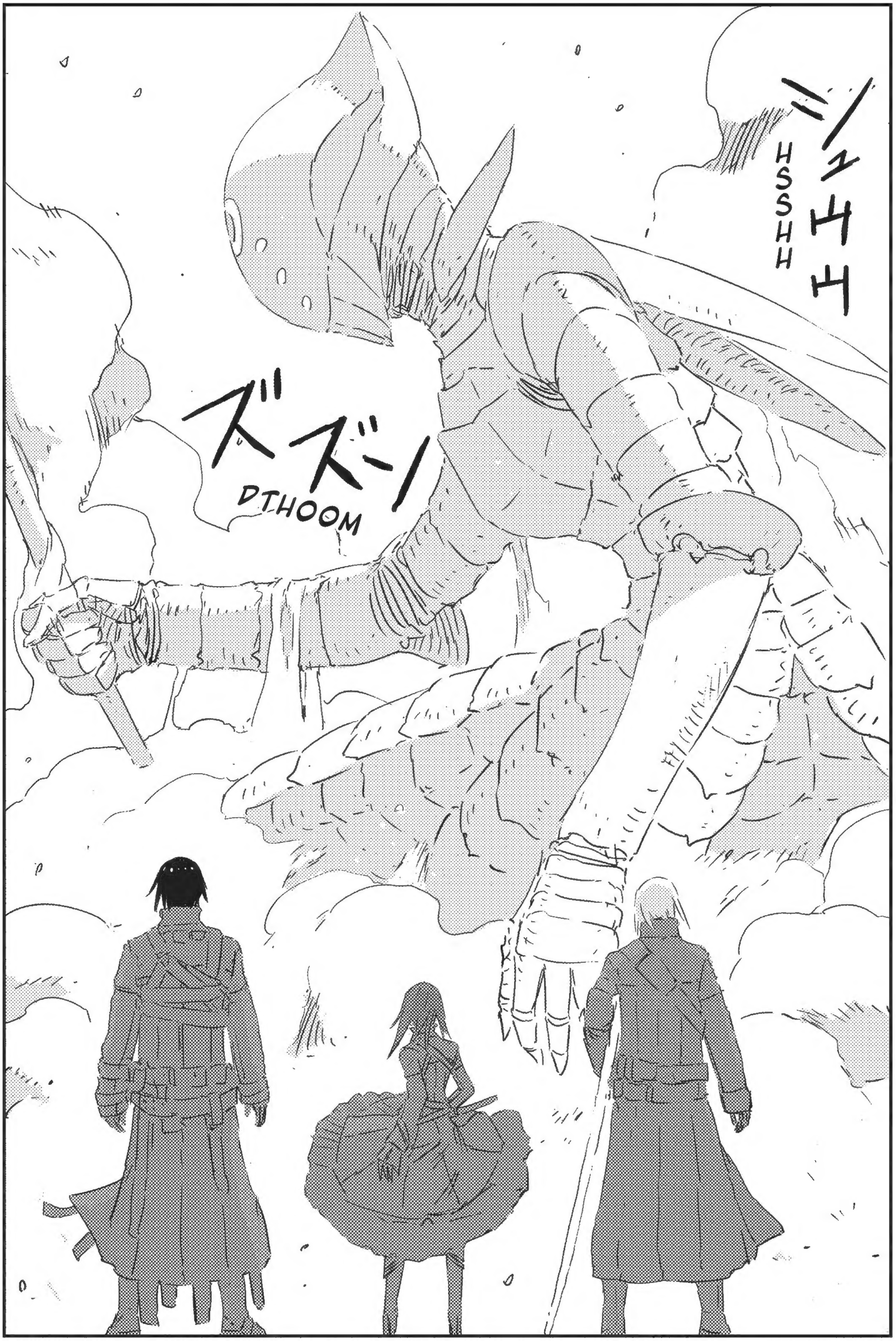
THROUGH THE ARTIFICIAL CODE, MATTER FROM THE SURROUNDINGS IS USED IN THE GENERATION OF PLACENTA!

SHE'S DOING WELL!

AHEE

WHSSSHH

BWORMMM



CHAPTER 30 END

CONTINUED IN VOLUME 6

APOSIMZ volume 5

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